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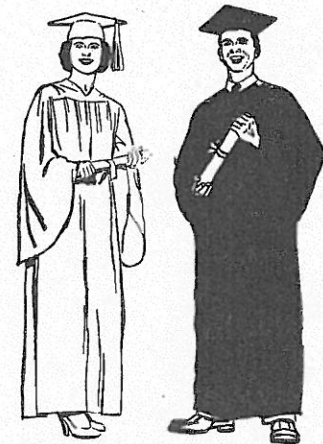
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Aim

The magazine for young people



The grand difficulty is to feel the reality of both worlds, so as to give each its due place in our thoughts and feelings: to keep our mind's eye and our heart's eye ever fixed on the land of promise, without looking away from the road along which we are to travel toward it.—Hare

Knowledge advances by steps, not by leaps.

Aim The magazine for young people

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Hope E. Dais, Editor

"The mother in her office holds the key of the soul; and she it is who stamps the coin of character, and makes the being who would be a savage but for her gentle cares, a Christian man! Then crown her queen of the world.—OLD PLAY

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"An Ounce of Mother Is Worth a Pound of Clergy"



by
Cecyl
Fischer

"She broke the bread into two fragments and gave them to the children, who ate them with avidity. 'She has kept none for herself,' grumbled the sergeant. 'Because she is not hungry,' said a soldier. 'Because she is a mother,' said the sergeant." This thought by Victor Hugo so well describes the pulse of motherhood, which we especially remember in this month of May.

When we begin to meditate upon mothers and motherhood, thoughts and quotations and memories flood our minds and hearts in such abundance that it is hard to put them down in an orderly sequence or to know where to begin and where to end. Mother-love causes even the most timid and frail women to rush fearlessly into a burning house to save her child. A love no less intense causes her to labor tediously day by day at the menial chores of washing, scrubbing, cooking, and mending, to spend sleepless nights beside the bed of a sick child—unpaid, often seemingly unappreciated. No greater love exists *except* in the heart of God.

Perhaps the reasons our yearly tribute to Motherhood so often finds its place in our church services is because "Mother love" is the closest thing we can understand to "God love." Before a baby can reason or remember or understand, he recognizes his mother as security—a thing to trust. This complete love and trust that we have for our mother as little children is perhaps a shadow of the fuller, richer love and trust we later learn for God. And her selfless love for us is perhaps a shadow of the Lord's unfathomable love toward us—a love which asks not, "Is he pretty or ugly—is he good or bad?"

It has been said, "Mother is the name of God in the lips and hearts of little children." This is much the same comparison as God Himself expresses in Isaiah 66:13, "As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you."

Perhaps it is because parent-love so nearly resembles God-love that God admonishes us so often to maintain respect for our parents. "Honour thy father and thy mother" we find in God's very own Ten Commandments.

In Proverbs 1:8, "My son, hear the instruction of thy father and forsake not the law of thy mother."

In Proverbs 23:22, "Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old." These and many more.

Does it seem incredible that we should have to be reminded to love and respect our parents?

Perhaps to us it does. But if we look around us we must only admit that there is indeed a shocking lack in this department. Oh yes, of course our thoughts immediately turn to the swiftly increasing rate of teen crimes and misdemeanors, but sadly enough teenagers are not alone in their disgrace. Parental disrespect is flagrant in those much short of their teens, and in those far beyond their teens when it is Mom and Dad who need the help and security and love they have so freely given. However, it shouldn't surprise us, for don't we read in Proverbs 30:11, "There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother"? This is the generation we see as we look around us, and certainly those to come will be no better.

It is for us, each of us, to see that this disrespect, this unnatural disregard for parents doesn't creep into God's Church. Stars, roses, sunsets—many lovely things—come in numbers, but the really precious things are those which are scarce. We have only one father, only one mother, only one God.

How we should treasure them!

Even those of us who have grown up surrounded by the selfless love of devoted parents find it difficult to comprehend the unfathomable love of God. How much more difficult it must be for those who have not known even the love of father and mother!

Is it any wonder the old Spanish proverb tells us, "An ounce of Mother is worth a pound of clergy?" Let's not fail to show in word and in deed our gratitude to the parents who taught us the meaning of love. A lovely greeting card once or twice a year does little to make up for a whole year of animosity or simple neglect.

No one will argue with you that your parents are perfect—OF COURSE you don't always agree with them—OF COURSE you don't always approve of their ways—but they love you, not according to your good or bad qualities, but simply because you belong to them. Let's do the same for them.

And God too loves us, not

according to our goodness, but according to His own. Let's love Him in return to the best of our ability, IN DEED AND IN TRUTH.

I stress the words "in deed" because just as "Faith without works is dead," love without works is not love. The following poem which I memorized in my grade school days comes to my mind every year when Mother's Day draws near, or especially then. Although it is written in the language of children, the message is to all ages who still have parents to cherish. And even to those whose parents have passed on there is a message about our relationship with our Heavenly Parent.

WHICH LOVED BEST?

"I love you, Mother," said little John.

Then, forgetting work, his cap went on,
And he was off to the garden swing,
Leaving his mother the wood to bring.

"I love you, Mother," said rosy Nell;

"I love you better than tongue can tell."
Then she teased and pouted full half the day,
Till her mother rejoiced when she went to play.

"I love you, Mother," said little Nan;

"Today I'll help you all I can—

How glad I am when school doesn't keep!"

So she rocked the baby till it fell asleep.
Then stepping softly, she took the broom
And swept the floor, and dusted the room.

Busy and happy all day was she,
Helpful and cheerful as a child could be.

"I love you, Mother," again they said;
Three little children going to bed.

How do you think that Mother guessed
Which of them really loved her best?
(Turn to next page)

A man never sees all that his mother has been to him till it's too late to let her know that he sees it.—H. D. Howells

When a Mother's family is grown and has left home, how do you think she knows which of them love her best? By the one who sends the biggest bouquet of roses on Mother's Day? By the one who sends the most expensive card? We each know the answer. It's those other eleven months that tell the story.

And how does God know which of His children really love Him? Is it the one who utters the longest prayer by his bedside, or the one who falls asleep on his knees because he has spent a long hard day laboring for the Master?

We so often hear those who are misled teaching that the Ten Commandments are outdated and nailed to the cross, that those who keep them are trying to be saved by their works. "Sal-

vation," they say "is not by works, but by our faith and love for God." And so right they are. But how does God know those that love Him? Christ Himself gives the answer in John 14:21, "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father...."

As this Mother's Day comes and goes, let each of us vow to show more appreciation throughout the coming year for this "little bit of God" that was given to each of us. Let's show Mother which of us really love her best. And what better time to think upon the tender mercies of God, the only One Who loves us better than a mother, and vow to show Him "which of us really love Him best."

Cradle the Earth

Cradle the earth for a moment, Lord,
In the palm of your healing hand;
Whisper a soft re-assuring word
That I can understand,
For I am a lost and bewildered child
In a tangled atomic maze,
Troubled and easily beguiled
By neon-noisy ways.
Cradle the earth for a moment, Lord,
In the palm of your healing hand;
Whisper a clear and guiding word
That I can understand.

—Alice M. Swaim

Speaking Distinctly

By Walter Isenhour

Many of our young people will appear in public, some more, some less, across the years of life. Some will become ministers of the Gospel, missionaries, teachers, politicians, lawyers, announcers, or fill other places in life where they will deal with the public, and shall have to use their tongues in important business, or as speech-makers otherwise.

Regardless of the position one fills in life in the business, education, ministerial, political world, or otherwise in callings and professions, one of the most important things to learn is to speak distinctly. Of course there are those who are handicapped in their speech and can't speak clearly and distinctly. Some stutter or have an impediment in speech, which they can't help. We have to bear with them and understand them the best we can.

However, much of the indistinct speaking is due to the lack of cultivating and practicing distinctness. Some jumble their words because they don't take time to be clear in what they say. *If anything is worth telling and worth hearing, then it is worth delivering distinctly so it can be heard and understood.*

Have you ever heard someone telling something that you were anxious to get, but it was spoken in such a way that you could not grasp what the speaker was saying? Maybe he spoke entirely too low, or so fast that it was like running away with something he wanted to get rid of as soon as possible. You listened and wondered what it was all about, and perhaps asked some-

body else what he was saying.

Did you ever hear someone sing a song and wonder what the words were? It might have been a good song, but the singer was so indistinct with the words that about all you could hear was a voice saying and singing something, leaving you confused and in wonderment. Singing should be, as much as possible, in a clear, distinct voice in order to have the desired effect, especially real Gospel singing.

Young people, learn to be distinct in your speaking. Practice it. Don't speak so loud and rasping that your hearers become jittery. Be clear in your delivery. Don't speak so fast that your hearers can't keep up with you and wonder what you are saying. Don't run away with your subject and maybe wonder why it was so ineffective. After all, if you so speak until your hearers can't grasp your words and message, what is it worth? You may be spending your time, and taking theirs, and accomplishing nothing worthwhile. Don't strain your voice in order to think you will be more effective and maybe exhaust yourself before you are through with your message.

Get this please: one of the most important and vital points in speaking and delivering a message, or testimony, is to be clear and distinct in what you are saying. If you have something worth saying you should want those to whom you are speaking to understand and grasp it; but if you don't have anything worthwhile to say, then don't say it.

We realize that only a few people can be called "silver-tongued orators," because of their mastery of language and its delivery, but every one who has a reasonably good voice and will

use it as he should, can be effective to some extent, and even to a great extent when he is speaking to bless mankind. You may have a good education and a good gift as a speaker, but if you are indistinct in your delivery, and fail to make people understand you, you are seriously handicapped, or seriously disabling yourself.

Dear youth, you should endeavor to please God with your speaking and your conversation. Remember, "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver" (Prov. 25:11). A beautiful picture made by the right kind of words.

* * *

OUR SUSTAINING GOD

By Walter E. Isenhour

I have scaled some rugged mountains,
I have crossed some swollen streams,
I have stood upon the hilltops
Where the golden sunlight gleams;
I have traveled in the valleys,
I have walked some stony roads,
But I find in all my travels
Jesus shares the heavy loads.
Whether things are hard or easy
As the years go passing by;
Whether we are shouting happy,
Or sometimes we stop and cry;
We may know the God of battles
Never lets His children down,
But will give us grace and courage,
And at last a victor's crown.

I'm Adopted

By Jessie Truman

"I'M ADOPTED!" The words left a bad taste in John's mouth. Once again the feeling of being rejected welled up inside him and filled him with bitterness. It wasn't his fault he was adopted and what was worse, he hadn't had any choice in the matter. He was a human being and people had handled him as if he were livestock, to be bought and sold. Anger and resentment surged through his young body and appeared in the form of defiance. He was going to do what HE wanted with HIS life and NOBODY was going to stop him.

These were the thoughts that went through the mind of young John Bishop as he sat in the far corner of the back pew. He hadn't really wanted to come to church today but it would be a chance to see Bill and Joe after services. Maybe they could cook up a date for tonight. Bill had his own car and he liked to fill it with young folks and go roller skating. Sitting through the Sabbath services was the price John would pay for the fun he'd have later.

John hadn't always felt this way about being adopted. His mind wandered back to when he was just a little fellow. He would ride his tricycle back and forth on the walk behind the cows while Mom and Dad did the milking. He'd stop behind the cow where Mom was milking and say, "Tell me a story." When Mom ran out of all the familiar childhood stories and nursery rhymes one final request would follow. It was his favorite story and all his own. "Mamma, now tell me about me." And Mom would tell how she and Dad didn't have any little boy or girl and how much they wanted one. Finally they asked a nice lady to help them find just the right little boy for them to love. They waited and waited, and one day a letter came from the lady, She said she had found a little boy who didn't have a home. Maybe he was the little boy they were looking for. Could they come to her town soon to see him?

Of course they could come. They could hardly wait for the day to arrive. When it finally came they got up so early it was

still dark. They drove and drove. Finally they reached the town and found the lady's office. And it was there they first saw John, curly-haired, brown-eyed John. There was no doubt about it. He was just the right boy and they loved him already. In fact, they had loved him before they ever saw him. It wouldn't have mattered one bit to Mom and Dad if he hadn't had curly hair and pretty eyes. And so he went home with them to live, and became John Bishop.

Where did things start going wrong? It was hard to be sure just when the resentment started. Maybe it was when he'd coax and tease to have his own way and his parents were firm in their denial. To soothe his injured feelings John told himself that they didn't really love him. Or maybe it was as he grew older and was expected to help with the chores. "They only wanted me so they could make me do their dirty work." Or was it when he wanted a car of his own? Some of the other fellows his age had their own cars, and they sure had a "ball." If he had his own car he'd just naturally have all the privileges and freedoms the other fellows had. They went out every night, had a girl friend and really lived it up. He envied them when he listened to their stories at school.

John thought of the young folks at church as being divided into two groups. Some were "playing it smart" and were doing these things on the sly, and some were just plain sissys. He could not stand sissys, so he decided to "play it smart." By "playing it smart," things started happening that John hadn't really planned. He had to lie now and then to cover up. That bothered him at first, but the more he did it the less it hurt. He "borrowed" the car without Dad's permission. He complained loud and long because his allowance didn't cover all his wants. The warm relationship between himself and his parents that he had enjoyed as a child was gone.

Underneath it all was the nagging of unanswered questions. "Who am I? Why was I adopted? Didn't my mother care enough about me to keep me? Is there something shameful about my hidden past?" All these questions added to the confusion of a boy trying desperately to become a man in a confused world.

The preliminaries of the worship service were over and the pastor announced the theme of his sermon. "I want to speak to you this morning about the spirit of adoption. I invite you to open your Bibles and read the various texts as we explore this subject together."

John blinked. He hadn't expected this, but he really wasn't very interested. What could Pastor Brown tell him about adoption

that he didn't already know? "In fact," thought John, "I could tell him a thing or two about adoption."

"First, let us be sure of the meaning of *adopt*. Webster defines it as: 1. To take by choice into a relationship, especially that of a child or an heir. 2. To take or receive as one's own (what is not so naturally).

"Jacob adopted two sons of Joseph. This story is told in Genesis 48. As Jacob's sons and heirs, they received a special blessing. Moses was a man chosen of God to lead His people out of captivity. His life was spared when he was a child because the king's daughter adopted him. And Esther was the adopted daughter of Mordecai. She found favor in the king's sight and was able to intercede for her people, the Jews. They were saved from destruction by the evil Haman."

These stories were all familiar to John. He especially had liked the one about Moses. His mother had loved him so much she had made the tiny life-boat and hidden him in the bulrushes. Hadn't she still loved him when Pharaoh's daughter took him to raise as her own? Silly question—of course she had. She had loved him enough to give him up and she trusted God to care for him. John wondered about his own mother. Could it be she had loved him like that, so much that she could give him up for his own good? It wasn't likely that Moses remembered his parents, yet he went on and performed the work God had for him to do.

"Today I want to emphasize spiritual adoption," continued the pastor. "Let us turn to Psalm 51. Here we read David's confession of sin and his humble prayer for forgiveness. In verse 5 he confesses his unclean condition for he said 'Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.' In Romans 3:23 we read that "... all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." That puts all of us on the same lowly footing. But praise God, we don't have to stay in that condition. We can be adopted into the family of God.

"In Romans 11 Paul told the Gentiles that they could be grafted into the tame olive tree. The tame olive is symbolic of Israel. God's chosen people and heirs with Abraham. The wild olive is symbolic of the Gentiles, those people who were strangers and not heirs of the promise. But, by being grafted into the true tree, they became a part of that tree. Thus they would also inherit the promise. To be grafted into the true tree has the same meaning as being adopted into the true family.

"Before we can be adopted we have to be wanted. 1 John 4:14 tells us that 'We love him, because he first loved us.' We find

in Ephesians 1:4-6 that God loved us before the foundation of the world and 'having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.'"

God had loved us and wanted us before the foundation of the world. Mom and Dad had to make an application for an adoption, then waited many months for their dream to be fulfilled. In fact, they had their application in long before John was born. John squirmed a little. He hadn't thought of it just this way before.

"Now let us turn to Galatians, the third chapter. Beginning with verse 26 we read 'For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.' This portion of Scripture tells us how we can be adopted into God's family. It is by accepting Jesus and by being baptized. This is when we take on Christ's name as Christian."

When John was adopted by Mom and Dad he took the name of Bishop. Now he was legally their son. This was a distinct parallel with what Pastor Brown had just explained.

"Continue to read in chapter 4. 'Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all; but is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.' This is the time for growing and learning. A time for serving and obedience. A time for correction and submission. 'For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening God dealeth with you as sons' (Hebrews 12:6, 7). '... and because ye are sons, God hath sent for the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ' (Galatians 4:6, 7).

"An heir is someone who is entitled to inherit. Did you know that according to the laws of this state adoptive parents can in no way disinherit their adopted children? They are protected more than natural children, for it is possible to disinherit them. It is the same in the spiritual sense. Remember the tame olive tree? Some of its branches had been cut off or disinherited. But as long as the wild olive remained grafted in, it was part of the true tree.

"Who can be adopted into this family? John tells us '... as

many as received him, to them gave he power (the margin says privilege) to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.' And once we are adopted we '... are no more strangers and foreigners, *but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God*' (Eph. 2:19). What a glorious promise! What wonderful love the Father has for us! I'm sure we all want to be in that household."

John's thoughts were running helter-skelter. For the first time he saw that it took a lot of love to make adoption possible. He could see the pretty cow-boy shirt Mom had embroidered for him easier than he could remember the things she had said "no" about. And that look of pride he saw in Dad's eyes when he brought home a blue ribbon from the county fair. That was more pleasant to remember than some of the more recent scenes. The congregation stood to sing the closing hymn. John had missed the number of the page, so he just stood listening.

"My Father is rich in houses and lands,
He holdeth the wealth of the world in His hands;
Of rubies and diamonds, of silver and gold,
His coffers are full, He has riches untold.

"My Father's own Son, the Savior of men
Once wandered o'er earth as the poorest of them;
But now He is pleading for sinners on high,
And will give me a home when He comes by and by.

Pastor Brown held up his hand for the singing to stop. He leaned forward a little and his eyes swept over his flock. John had never heard him speak more earnestly as he asked, "Are you a child of the King? Have you given your heart to Him? He wants to adopt YOU into His family. If you haven't been adopted, won't you come to the altar today, right now? Ask God to forgive all your past sins. Remember that as many as receive Him can be the Sons of God. Won't you come?"

"I once was an outcast, a stranger on earth,
A sinner by choice, and an alien by birth;
But I've been adopted, my name's written down—
An heir to a mansion, a robe and a crown."

"That song must have been written for me," thought John. "Oh, I didn't understand." There were tears in his eyes.

"A tent or a cottage, Oh why should I care?
They're building a palace for me over there;
Tho' exiled from home, yet still I may sing:
All glory to God, I'm a child of the King."

By now the tears ran unchecked down John's face. He knew
(Continued on page 15)

Youth Questions
answered by
Ray L. Straub



Don't You Suppose . . .

QUESTION:

I attend high school and get along satisfactorily with my parents at home. While I do not mind attending church, there are other things that are a great deal more interesting that I would rather be doing. But, my folks make me go to church each week. Don't you suppose it's about time my parents left me alone to form my own religious habits?

ANSWER:

Not quite. While one cannot blame you for wanting to make your own decisions about church attendance, you would do well to consider the real importance of weighing these matters carefully.

You would like to be left alone to form your own religious habits. What kind of *religious* habits are you

intending to form, particularly since you indicate that, if on your own, you might attend church less often? It appears that your parents are enabling you to learn better habits under their guidance than you feel inclined to learn by yourself.

While you will not appreciate my saying so, there are not many young people of high school age who are sufficiently mature to be left entirely alone to make their own decisions about whether or not they want to attend church. You will not be sufficiently qualified to choose for yourself until you can make a choice on a wiser basis than you suggest in your question.

One does not go to church simply because it is "interesting." Youth often interprets "interesting" to mean "having fun" or "excitement." A ball game, racing event, television show, or visit with a friend might be considered more fascinating, but hardly more worthwhile.

Brushing teeth, combing hair, and washing dishes are not interesting, usually. But, who can doubt their usefulness? These and similar activities are necessary to good health, and therefore they are faithfully practiced.

Church attendance, even though it does not always offer a "thrill," is necessary exercise for good spiritual and mental health.

You have already learned to brush your teeth and comb your hair without parental prodding, even though it was once necessary. After one develops spiritually, if he does, he learns to attend church regularly, without prodding, because he knows he needs it.

Perhaps you have seen parents who are so "open-minded" about

their children's choice of religion that they do not take them to church at all. They state that they want their young ones to choose entirely on their own without parental influence. I am reminded of a college professor who told his class to "be careful when you think you're open-minded that you're not actually just empty headed!"

Concerned parents do not let their children decide whether they should eat with dirty hands, play in the mud on cold days, or wear clean clothes. During growth people need guidance, and wise parents recognize this.

Have you ever heard of the proverbial fellow who refuses to go to church simply because his parents made him? You may have heard of him, but you have not seen him. He doesn't exist. Most of the devout Christians are those whose parents showed the courage and wisdom of yours even while, as young people, they questioned the rigid rule, just as you are doing.

Take care not to rebel against church just because it makes demands of you. This kind of behavior breeds misery and prevents maturity. Try your best to meet the demands of your church and her Lord, for in so

doing you will not only find happiness through your own spiritual growth, but you will also find that the best place to visit is God's House.

I hope that soon you can be as fully thankful for wise and godly parents as I am for both yours and mine today.

* * *

"I WANT TO BE INCLUDED"

By Alma Belden

I want to be included, Lord.
When you call your children home,
When through this strife-torn world,
We no longer have to roam.

I'll do anything you say, Lord
Work for you each day and night;
Spread your word where're I go,
Tell everybody far and near and
Spread the holy Light.

They say there will be some stars
To go in our crown that day
If we live for You and serve You till
the end.

But if there are no stars for me, Lord,
I'll be happy just to be—
Near enough to see your face
Through-out Eternity!

I'M ADOPTED

(Continued from page 13)

he wanted to be a child of the King more than anything else in the world. He stepped out of the far corner in the back pew and made his way to the altar. As he surrendered to God he heard

"I'm a child of the King, a child of the King;
With Jesus my Savior, I'm a child of the King."

A few minutes later Pastor Brown stood beside him with his hand extended. "God bless you, son," he said. John smiled as he grasped his hand. "Thank you, sir. Now I'm doubly adopted, and it's wonderful."

Divine Strategy

By Mary Holbert

The oxen stumbled. The Ark of the Covenant was about to fall to the ground. If you had been there, what would you have done? Automatically reached a hand to steady it? That is exactly what Uzza did. This angered God and He smote Uzza for his error and he died. (See 1 Chronicles 13:9, 10).

Punishment for our errors against God is not so immediate today, but if we sin, we cannot expect to go unpunished, "for the wages of sin is death;..." (Romans 6:23). What strategy can we use to safeguard ourselves against the wages of sin since our carnal natures lead us so readily into error?

Paul says we fight a continual warfare between our spiritual and carnal natures. (Carnal means belonging to the flesh in distinction from spirit. It does not necessarily infer sin, although when definitely contrasted with spirit it sometimes is so intended. *Cruden's Concordance*). "But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members" (Romans 7:23).

Going ahead to ask a question, Paul says, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" (Verse 24). The answer is sim-

ply this: "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, *who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit*" (Romans 8:1).

To win the battle then, we must walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Verse 6).

Peter lost out to human nature once. He was supremely confident that nothing could make him deny his beloved Jesus. Even after Jesus told Peter that before the cock would crow that Peter would deny Him three times, "Peter said unto him, though *I shall die* with thee yet will I not deny thee..." (Matthew 26:35). Peter knew for certain that he would not deny Christ; yet when the situation arrived his human fears arose and answered for him and he did deny Christ. When he heard the cock crow, he remembered the words of Jesus. Peter

went out and wept bitterly.

We may be just as sure as Peter that we'll lead spiritual lives, but our human natures can cause us to deny Christ by our sins. Jesus understood this human weakness when he said, "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation; *the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak*" (Matthew 26:41).

So, uppermost in our minds should be a prayer to God for His Spirit to lead us in wisdom and give us strength to be spiritually minded and to overcome our carnal natures. We are surrounded by many temptations which attract and overcome the unwary, so each heart needs fortifying. How can this be done?

One safeguard, of course, is communication with God through prayer. Another safeguard against sin is suggested by the Psalmist when he says, "Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against thee" (Psalm 119:11).

The Word of God is the light that scatters darkness. If we put in good, then evil will be kept out. Verse 9 says, "Where-withal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word."

Here is divine strategy to use in this warfare between the flesh and the Spirit. Fill our lives and hearts with the Word of God—leave no room for evil.

It is well to hide the Word of God in our hearts but we must also be ready to bring it forth in swift attack against the

approach of temptation. The Word of God is a mighty weapon. "For the word of God is quick, and powerful and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

We must crush temptation with a swift attack as soon as we see it. To dally with temptation one instant is to lose the advantage. We must not let the enemy choose a good position and fortify himself strongly, but with a surprise attack and a mighty twoedged sword crush the temptation and go on our way to victory. A victory that is sure if we believe as did Paul when he said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13).

Through divine strategy we can follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness, and "fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life..." (2 Timothy 6:12).

* * *

YOU CAN WIN

You say you are lonesome and lonely;
you say you are often blue,
That life has nothing to offer, nothing
to pull you through.
Have you forgotten that only self can
pull you out of the mire,
That you alone must travel the road
to win the goal you desire?

—Sunshine

Youth Emphasis Week

in New Auburn, Wisconsin



Marvin Keim

with

two

M. B. C.

Students



Dale Lawson

The F.Y.C. of the Tillinghast Church of God (7th Day) counted it a great privilege to have two capable ministerial students from Midwest Bible College minister unto us during Youth Emphasis Week March 15-21. The goal was to reach youth in the community.

"Prepare ye the way" was fulfilled previous to the meetings when a prayer circle was begun. Each one wrote down the time when he would be talking with the Father about our meetings, so that we would have someone praying at all times during the 24 hour period as nearly as possible. Also handbills were handed out in neighboring towns, to neighbors and friends in the community, inviting them personally to attend the meetings.

Each meeting was well organized with good congregational singing and special music centered around the chalk drawings done by Sister Virginia Heavilin. She brought a spiritual lesson to our attention each night. This drawing was given to the person who had brought the most youth between the ages of 10 and 25.

Our thanks to God for sending us Brothers Marvin Keim and Dale Lawson. They brought messages that were heart-searching and of great spiritual value to each one. Lives were revitalized, encouraged, and it was wonderful to note that the "Tillinghast troublemaker" did not feel welcome, Praise God. (I understand that this troublemaker is not confined to the Tillinghast Community, so I might insert a bit of a warning here and say that he might be in your area, so watch out for him.)

Was the time, money, effort, prayer and singing worthless? I hope you will agree with me, after reading the following testimonies, that no matter what is done for the Lord, it is well worth every effort.

Glowing Testimonies from our New Auburn FYC

It was very encouraging, the sermons, and the chalk drawings and musical numbers.—Kevin Weir

I enjoyed the Youth Emphasis Week meetings and I thought the sermons were especially inspirational.—Carol Christenson

Youth Emphasis Week was as refreshing as water to a wilted flower.—Mike Weir.

I enjoyed the Youth Emphasis Week very much. I think that all of us who attended were spiritually blessed and drawn closer to Christ our Saviour. The meetings made me want to reconsecrate my life to the Lord and straighten things out between my Lord and I.

—Henry Joles

Youth Emphasis Week awakened a spiritual need in my life. I found the determination to live the Christian life by giving my all to Christ my Saviour.—Jan Reed

Praise the Lord He found a way for two very devout young men to spend one very (SHORT) week with us here. Truly the Spirit of the Lord was felt in our midst each night. There is so much that young people can do and should do for the Lord. Through Youth Emphasis Week I realized more fully the power of prayer and that I should spend more time with the Lord in prayer. I truly received a great blessing from my Lord that wonderful week. Praise the Lord it was possible.—Carol Knoll

Youth Emphasis Week to me was a real week of decision. Sometimes life can be real trying and trials seem too great to bear even though we know we'll never have trials too hard that we cannot with God's help, bear them. But I can gladly say I conquered all and thanks to the inspiring messages in word and song, I'll try to let Jesus be first in all.—Joyce Weir.

While Dale and Marvin were here I experienced a joyous realization that we all need to be lifted up, and renew our faith in God. I especially enjoyed the chalk talks and special musical numbers.—Rosie Kolmer

I have received a deep spiritual blessing from the meetings we had. It meant a lot to have two young people to come over and encourage us in our spiritual walk. I want everyone to pray for me. I need it.
—Marilyn Heavilin

During Youth Emphasis Week I gained a spiritual blessing every night and hope we can have another week of meetings like it next year.
—Jessie Knoll

To me, Youth Emphasis Week meant uplifting my spirits about a thousand miles. It meant so much to me to hear our two brethren speak. I thank the Lord for sending these two young men to speak to us.—Jim Kolmer

I gained a great blessing out of Youth Emphasis Week. I realized
(Continued on page 27)

Christian Environment at Spring Vale

By Phyllis Hayford, S.V.A. Senior



One of the best places to find, and be trained for Christian education is here at Spring Vale Academy. If you have any young people in your church or home, encourage them to save their pennies. So when they get ready to enter high school, they will want to come here.

I believe it means a lot to you parents if your children grow up in the admonition of the Lord. Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."

I'm not saying that Spring Vale Academy will save your child. Not by any means. First you must try to train him or her at home to develop good characteristics. Teach them obedience, respect for their elders,

respect for other people's property. Set good moral standards for them. Teach them manners, cleanliness, kindness, temperance, loyalty, but most of all love.

You may say this sounds like a lot of requirements for my child to enter Spring Vale; but, believe me this is what you must do. Remember your child will be on his own, but the Christian faculty will help build these traits that you have given them, with God's help, to become stronger.

Spring Vale is not like any public school by any means, because here we learn the love of God, not the love of the devil.

Although we try to keep the devil out, he sometimes manages to slide under the door more in a place like this than in a public school.

One does not know the joy he can receive unless he has had the experience of attending this fine school.

All through the week we hear music being practiced on the piano, the accordion, and by voice. We hear real hymns which one doesn't hear in a

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The Editor's Page

A TEAM THAT ALWAYS WINS

"OUR TEAM WILL WIN," "OUR TEAM'S ON TOP," are typical of the shouts heard from a group of effervescent cheerleaders at any all-American ballgame. Right to the end their spirits remain buoyant and unflinching, even though they know there is a *chance* their team may lose—and, indeed, even if the scoreboard shows that they most assuredly are losing.

And what about the team that always wins? "Team that always wins?" you reply. "No such thing. But, believe me, if there were, you'd find me in the cheering section. No tough decision there."

Right you are. There is no ball team that always wins. But there is a team that always wins—a team that always wins in the game of life. Does this happen to be the decision you have been battling with? Let's make it simple for you. *No tough decision here.* Here are only a *few* of the confidences on which we stand:

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

"If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 6:31).

"The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?" (Psalm 118:6).

Have you ever thought of the complications involved in this decision of life if there were actually some doubt as to whether evil or good will win out in the end?

Yet, here is an answer that is unequivocally certain. You win both in the "playoffs" and in the "finals." Peace, assurance, and satisfaction are ours now, and...

"Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even to the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet."

Then our ultimate reward—a beautiful mansion, an eternal home more magnificent than we can even imagine.

Is it a hard decision—really?

SVA NEWS

Right after the revival, conducted by Elder Nelson Caswell, we had a baptismal service. The 25th of March Barbara Mann, Marjorie Caswell and Tim Caswell were baptized. We are very thankful when new ones give their life to the Lord.

The night of the Lord's Supper forty-four people participated here. Elder Turner conducted the service.

A lot of activity has been going on in the woods lately. Mr. Caswell boiled maple syrup this year. Many of the students found this a new and fascinating event. They willingly gathered sap, pumped, and chopped firewood. We are enjoying the good maple syrup now over pancakes or as wax on snow.

A new Hotpoint refrigerator was purchased for the kitchen. It is especially enjoyed by the cook, Mrs. Caswell, after having only one refrigerator for awhile. It is turquoise blue and plans are being made to paint the kitchen cabinets to match.

April 4th the seniors held a "shadow" box social. The women disguised themselves and stood behind a sheet and the men hid on the shadows. They ate supper with the lady whose shadow they bought. The seniors made \$89.00 including donations.

The all-star basketball game was held April 11. All the top players played against the champion team, E.U.B. Fred Taylor and Gerry Pederson represented Spring Vale in the game. The all-star players won 59 to 39.

The same night, the people from



School Reports

the Petersburg church brought up a film and refreshments for the students. The film was "The Town That Came Alive." We really enjoyed the evening.

April 12th the seniors held a car wash in town. It was a lot of hard work, but they were rewarded by a \$25 profit.

Sabbath, the 18th of April the students attended the quarterly all-day meeting in Deckerville.

Many events are on the calendar for the last six weeks of school. The students are going to be very busy, especially the seniors. Remember us all in your prayers!—*Sharon Westfall*

Midwest Bible College

March 27 was a day for Dan Camero to remember. He was honored with a candlelight birthday dinner.

March 28 was another day of importance for the young people. The Stanberry young people played St.

Joseph in a basketball game at King City. Stanberry won the victory, 48 to 35. After the game, refreshments were served in the basement of the church.

Also on this day, a black car drove up bringing the family of one of the college students, Esther Martin. Mr. and Mrs. Owen L. Martin and Lois Kay Martin from Litchfield, Illinois, and a sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William W. Bishop and daughter, Kathy, from Moline, Illinois. On April 1, two other visitors came, who are friends of Marvin Keim. They are Mr. Herb Knopp and his nephew Emil Knopp from Thorsby, Alberta, Canada.

The Student Council has made a few changes. The new president is Marvin Keim, vice-president, Mary Ellen Walter. The other offices remain as they were. They are busy on the College banquet plans.

Friday evening, April 3, was the beginning of the Revival meetings here at Stanberry. Elder Ivan Harlan from Ft. Smith, Arkansas, was the Evangelist. The featured singers were the Dutch trio who were the former Nienhuis sisters (Mrs. A. L. Carlin, Mrs. R. C. Moldenhauer, and Mrs. Elmer Schlenker). Also featured was "the Spanish Lad" from Saginaw, Michigan, Dan Camero. There was other special singing. The messages which Elder Harlan brought were: The Unpardonable Sin; The House of God; The Four Pillars of the Church, Faith, Hope, Charity, Work; The Horse, Eagle, Sheep.

Sabbath was an all-day meeting. Elder Harlan spoke in the morning, and Elder Kauer and Elder Harlan gave short sermons after dinner. After the afternoon service there was a gathering at the river for the baptizing

of Sister Joy Meader and Brother Onas Walker. In the evening after supper, the last service of the revival, the Church gave the two who were baptized the right hand of fellowship.

During the services several rededicated their lives, and one was saved.

Elder Ray Moldenhauer has been in the hospital in St. Joseph for another stay. He is in need of rest and relaxation.

All work and no play makes Dan a dull boy. Dan Camero broke his ankle while wrestling with Dan Coulson on campus.

As we finish our final weeks of school, we request an interest in your prayers.—*Esther Martin*

* * *

CHRISTIAN ENVIRONMENT AT SPRING VALE

(Continued from page 20)

public school. These are sung from the heart.

Our evening and morning services are a blessing to us, as we listen from the inspired Word of God. On Sabbath we hold church services, Sabbath school, and F.Y.C.

At sundown Sabbath we have vesper service. This to me is the saddest time of all because we know we have to wait another *whole* week until the next Sabbath rolls around.

Here at Spring Vale one learns to develop leadership that he does not gain in public school. The shy one that sits back in the corner is also urged to be a leader.

Twice a year we take time for the week of prayer; and

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Grow More In '64

Now that we are well into spring most farmers and home gardeners have their crops or their flowerbeds planted or are in the process. No doubt they also are hoping to "grow more in '64"—more corn, more wheat, more tulips, and more begonias. Till now we have not thought of our slogan in the sense of growing crops, but in the sense of growing spiritually. However, in a way that is what we are doing each month as we set about learning a new group of verses. We are sowing a new crop of seeds, and unlike the farmer's crop which must be planted from year to year in order to produce a harvest, our field continues to yield fruit year after year as long as it is kept well-watered.

The seeds? Why, they are the verses of Scripture laying tightly sealed in their envelope, the Bible, waiting to be used. As you select them one by one and commit them to memory you are planting them in your mind and heart.

The next step of course is the watering—and what indeed could that be, but the precious water of the Holy Spirit in our lives. It is important to learn these verses, but unless we take heed to them we are making the same mistake for which Paul upbraided the Jews in Romans 2. While they were well-versed in the law and willing and able to teach it to the Gentiles and to

2 Peter 1:21
Romans 12:18
John 8:34
Hebrews 12:14
Ephesians 2:8
Romans 10:10
Psalm 55:22
Proverbs 14:34

one another, they failed to apply it to their own lives. Knowing is not enough, doing is what counts. "For He that knoweth to do well and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17). We cannot possibly keep true to the things we know are right without the Holy Spirit in our lives. We must then pray for the watering of the Holy Spirit in our lives as a farmer prays for rain. Without it our "crop" will never peek through the soil and grow to produce tender fruits.

Now then, how long must we expect to wait to reap from the seeds we have planted? Till fall, the traditional time of harvest? No, this is the wonderful part. We can reap the fruits of our efforts almost immediately, and instead of gradually diminishing until another time of sowing, our harvest continues to increase and increase as we allow the Holy Spirit to nourish our lives, until one day our Saviour will return and we will reap such a harvest we cannot begin to imagine its splendor.

And lastly, what is this crop we have sown and what are the fruits of it? The answer is power—power in our lives and the fruits of the spirit which we all know—love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. And that final great harvest, eternal life.

Here are seeds to plant this month.



Foreign Correspondence

Activities

Our youth foreign correspondent, Jewell Linville, urges you to write for the name and address of a pen pal.

THANKS!—to you young people who responded so nicely to the request in the March issue of AIM for pen pals for foreign FYC members. This is a very worthwhile project for YP Groups, as well as rewarding for each individual member. It is always interesting and enlightening to learn about the activities of foreign young people and compare them to our own.

To those of you who have no pen pal yet, the request is still open. Check your March issue of AIM, decide with whom you would like to correspond, and write me for the address. Send your letter to: Mrs. Jewell Linville, 511½ East McKinney, Neosho, Missouri. We would like to see each of these young people receive mail from someone in our FYC here.

You young people who have already received the addresses for your pen pals; won't you please write me giving the names of those chosen and the name of the person corresponding with each?

Below is a letter from Brother Clifford C. Oputa, Ahoada, East Nigeria, Africa, which I would like to share with our readers:

"Dear Sister Linville:

Greetings to you in the name of our dear Lord Jesus Christ. All of sudden your letter dated 16th December, 1963, come to hand with many thanks. Your nice letter made the happiest man in the compound. In fact, I never felt leaving it until I persuaded it over several times. I am glad my letter was given to you as one of the foreign correspondents. I hope the almighty God will spare His blessings upon us.

I am a worker of the Lord, and also a teacher in the above mentioned school under the Church of God Mission (Ogba National School) which is located on mile from my home. I am 22½ years of age, and unmarried.

Our school vacated for five weeks. I am now enjoying the holiday at my uncle's place seven miles away from my home. I shall be very happy to hear about your destination and the news of others near you.

Our annual camp meeting for the district will be held on the 9th to 10th January, 1964, in Ahoada Township. We are helping much to spread the gospel.

May God bless and keep you and yours is my prayer. Reply in time. I am,

*Yours in Christ,
Clifford C. Oputa"*

Letters such as these will give you insight as to what activities our foreign young people have. Why don't you find out how the young people your age feel about it—**WRITE FOR A PEN PAL!**

Let's not forget to always remember all our foreign young people daily in our prayers.

Make a Mark of Merit

By Dale Lawson

GOD'S DISPLAY OF POWER

At the time of this writing, we in Stanberry are in the midst of a regular old midwest thunder and lightning storm. As I sit here listening to the thunder and watching the lightning illuminate the night my mind goes back to when I was a lad and we would have slight thunder and lightning storms on the West Coast. I used to run to the window and press my nose against the pane and watch for the next flash of lightning. As I would stand looking out into the storm I would think of Ben Franklin and his experiment with his kite and key in the lightning.

There are varied reactions to storms. Some enjoy watching, and thrill at the great mysteries of thunder and lightning. Others are fearful and desire to hide from the storm. Others are unconcerned and don't pay much attention.

Thunder and lightning storms are a great display of God's power. He controls the weather about us and His power allows vast amounts of electricity to go streaking through the sky. This and the loud claps of thunder should help us realize how small we are in the hands of a mighty God. By our will and His help we can choose to make our life holy, pure, and righteous before Him. "With Christ in the Vessel we can Smile at the Storm," whether it be physical or spiritual. If we choose to walk without Christ many times great displays of God's power strike fear to our hearts. Great signs of our Saviour's soon coming may strike fear to hearts if they are lonely and without Christ. Even as the lightning flashes across the sky so will Jesus come and every eye shall behold Him. Many that see Him coming will rejoice and thrill at the glory of His coming. To others great fear will be

in their hearts. FYCers, we need to make an extreme effort to help people find peace so they need not fear when they see Jesus coming in the clouds of heaven.

MERIT REPORTS

We are happy for the many good merit reports which are here for the 1st quarter of 1964. We hope some more will come in after this issue of *Aim*. Quarterly reports for the first quarter must be in by the end of May.

If you failed to enter the Merit Program for this quarter you may still win the Silver Award in the three quarters. This would be quite a challenge and the challenge is out. It is very much possible for you to accomplish this. Can you meet this challenge?

First Quarter—January through March, 1964

F.Y.C. Group	
Fairview, Oklahoma	205
Stanberry, Missouri	180
Stockton, California	170
N. Sacramento, California	115
Fort Smith, Arkansas	160
New Auburn, Wisconsin	195
San Antonio, Texas (Spanish group)	115
Elmira, Oregon	195
Conroe, Texas	150
Eureka, South Dakota	155
Lodi, California	170

The difficulties of life are intended to make us better, not bitter.

* * *

If you spend all your time collecting money for fear of poverty, you are practicing poverty already.

—EGYPTIAN PROVERB

YOUTH EMPHASIS WEEK

(Continued from page 19)

a great experience with my Lord and I shall not soon forget it! I learned that even though I thought I was a Christian that I need a greater walk with God and need to come closer to Him daily.

—Ken Knoll

I surely enjoyed the week of meetings here at our church. The messages in sermon and chalk were wonderful to say nothing about the fine singing. I was able to attend all of these meetings but one, and I gained a blessing from each one. I hope we can have this again. Pray for me that I may draw closer to God.—Martha Heavilin

Youth Emphasis Week really meant a lot to me. I feel closer to God and want to do all I can to prove it to my friends and tell them how much I love Him. It's hard to explain how I felt. My heart was glad all over with the joy and peace of loving and serving Jesus. When we feel the presence of God we want to go out and invite all we can. Even though some did not come with us, we were thankful for those who did. It is my desire to be like Jesus and follow in His footsteps.

—Violet Knoll



Heart to Heart

by Elden W. Fischer

A TIME FOR ROSES

Hundreds of bees and hundreds of butterflies but only one mother the wide world over. Many have tried to give a definition to the word that stands for the one around which the family revolves. Many have written heartwarming, well-worded essays in behalf of the one we seek to honor on our nation's annual Mother's Day, but words and pictures cannot record the concern of a mother for her children.

Every child should respect his parents, not just once a year, but throughout the year. Respecting parents is important enough that it was put into the Ten Commandments, but nothing is said there about its being an annual event.

We should respect parents daily. The fifth commandment states, "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

Christian parents have the extra obligation of attempting in every possible way to raise their son or daughter as a Christian. Raising a Christian family presents a real challenge in today's world of two-car families, television, and neighboring homes governed by the offspring to a large extent.

"Don't let your parents down; they brought you up," was one of the Teen Commandments adopted by 4,000 student delegates to a west coast high school convention in 1963. If you have Christian parents who seem to be putting a lot of restrictions on you, they are doing this because they love you. It is very difficult to understand this now, but when you become parents you will understand. Parents don't say "no" because it gives them pleasure to deny you things. How much easier parenthood would be if each of your requests could be answered with a cordial "yes" and a pat on the back. It is only the parent who has little concern for his child that will take this easy way out, for a child who doesn't learn in his youth to limit himself will only become an unhappy, poorly adjusted adult. Hollywood is full of miserable wretches hopelessly seeking satisfaction in their excesses. Many of them, after years of frustration, have ended their lives; many others are



still struggling and searching.

Parents who remember their teen age years know that these years were times of psychological storm and stress. The alert parent knows that his son or daughter wants to be like other young people with whom they associate. The feeling of being accepted by a social group is a necessity when young people are changing from children to adults. The temptations that this brings on young people often causes them to be led astray into activities as part of a group that, if by themselves, they would never consider. Parents that realize this are often labeled "over-protective" by their children, or hear the trite accusation, "You don't trust me."

A good share of today's juvenile delinquency is due to adult delinquency. Parents are leaving the responsibilities of parenthood to the church and school. One need not be an alarmist to see that there is this trend today. The school is not able to cope with the extra responsibility and the church doesn't have the young people long enough to do the job completely. One needs only to read the newspapers to see that moral standards are degenerating and accepted moral standards are lowering. Christian standards are outlined in the Bible, and the Word of God still upholds the high standards that it has always upheld.

Many a Christian mother in this ultra-modern world meets situations where she needs to call on the Lord for wisdom in dealing with her children. When financial burdens arise it's Mother's needs that come last on the shopping list. When a child is sick it is Mother who is at his side. When college expenses enter the pic-

ture, Mom takes on an outside job in addition to her domestic duties.

Legion are the young people that are looking forward to getting away from the restrictions of their homes. Almost as many young people, when they reach their early twenties or have been away from home for a few months, are very anxious to get back home to the same Mother and Father that denied them freedom just a few years earlier. The shack where Mom and Dad live is a more popular place at vacation time than Niagara Falls or Mt. Rushmore.

Parents may be old-fashioned but their heart of gold for their children never slows down. Teenagers, you can help a lot in keeping your home in a good Christian atmosphere. Be willing to discuss your problems with your parents and they will be able to understand you better. Be willing to compromise and even give in sometimes in your disagreement. If you have Christian parents, thank God that you aren't one of the young people who have no Christian parents or no parents at all. When death breaks up a family, parting from the guiding influence of our life can be so bitter. Honor your father and mother while they can appreciate it. Don't save the roses for the last rites, but give them genuine roses today.

On Mother's Day tell your mother how much you love her. Follow this up by showing her for the next 364 days that you meant what you said. The Christian mother that shows concern for her children by seeing that they study their Bible and Sabbath school lesson and keep up with the youth projects in progress through reading AIM, is the one we salute in this issue. God bless them and may their tribe increase.

"Take Time for God"



By Noah Camero

In the closing chapters of the book of Job, we are made glad to see the warm rays of health and happiness finally break through the dark cloud of Job's calamities. The Scripture has so stated and so it is: "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him."

Although Job's loss and affliction was severe and real enough, yet we see a much greater tragedy in the book of Lamentations. In Lamentations, Jeremiah describes the disaster not of an individual or a family, but of a whole nation. We can indeed lament with Jeremiah as we read of the ruin that sin inflicted upon Jerusalem. More so when we remember her former beauty and prosperity. The lesson is clear. Sin does not pay. It's expensive.

Going one step farther, Joel shows us the ultimate cost of sin. He tells us not of a personal or national disaster, but of the universal day of the Lord. The other two stories are now history. The day of the Lord with all its awesome judgments is still to come. Joel gives us a glimpse of the future and causes us to seriously consider whether our faith and endurance will stand the test.

Perhaps many times we seek to avoid studying the somber stories of the Bible. But let us face facts square-

ly. This old world has always known sorrows. And every age has faced its crises. We are only fortunate in that we have had it so good for so long. Now it is time to wake up to the danger ahead and begin to prepare.

We may not be able to escape the impending danger altogether, but Isaiah gives us a message of great hope. A hope of overcoming in spite of trials and of entering victoriously into a kingdom of justice and peace. Let us not dodge the books that lead us to serious thinking. Rather let us use them as training textbooks. Let us take time for God *now*, that He might find time for us *then*.

Suggested readings:

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Chapters</i>
May 15	Job 31
May 16	Job 32
May 17	Job 33
May 18	Job 34
May 19	Job 35
May 20	Job 36
May 21	Job 37
May 22	Job 38
May 23	Job 39
May 24	Job 40
May 25	Job 41
May 26	Job 42
May 27	Lamentations 1
May 28	Lamentations 2
May 29	Lamentations 3
May 30	Lamentations 4
May 31	Lamentations 5

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Chapters</i>
June 1	Joel 1
June 2	Joel 2
June 3	Joel 3
June 4	Isaiah 1
June 5	Isaiah 2
June 6	Isaiah 3
June 7	Isaiah 4

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Chapters</i>
June 8	Isaiah 5
June 9	Isaiah 6
June 10	Isaiah 7
June 11	Isaiah 8
June 12	Isaiah 9
June 13	Isaiah 10
June 14	Isaiah 11

F Y C NEWS and REMINDERS

Help for Foreign Worker Support

Ft. Smith, Ark.—Ft. Smith's officers for the first six months of this year are: Leader, Bonnie Harlan; Asst. Leader, Peggy Harris; Secretary, Linda Morese; and Asst. Secretary, Peggy Harris. Peggy has sent us their \$6 for our foreign worker again this year. She tells us their project for April is collecting clothes for needy families.

New Youth Group in St. Louis

St. Louis, Mo.—Sister John Kiesz writes us of her efforts with the young people there where she and her husband, Elder John Kiesz, are working in a new field. She writes, "The AIM is a paper we also like to read. We took up one of your youth projects here in our church. I have asked the older folks as well as the youth to memorize the Bible texts for each month. And those that know them I'm giving them a dollar toward getting the AIM, or any of our Church of God papers. So far I've

had one to respond and she has ordered the AIM for her nephew in Ohio. Do you think I could get poor through such a project?

"I would like a copy of the FYC yearbook. Later we would like to start a monthly youth program and I could use some ideas along with what I have. Please send me one copy, and any other literature you consider good for me to have."

Another Flying Start

Lodi, Calif.—Lodi, one of our 1963 Merit award winners, is off to a flying start again this year. Our thanks to you, Lodi, for your check in support of our foreign worker for 1964.

Orders Pins—Joins Merit Program

Nampa, Ida.—Carol Barrett of Nampa sends us an order for FYC pins and a request for a yearbook. She goes on to say, "Our group decided to join the Merit program. I will soon be sending in the report on that which Dale Lawson sent to

us. We think we will find it very challenging and encouraging. We would like you to pray for our group that we may continue working for our Master."

FYC Yearbooks Much Appreciated

Claremore, Oklahoma—Mary Hinds of Claremore sends us an order for FYC pins and promises to send a new registration sheet soon. Claremore's officers for this year are: Leader, Mary Hinds; Asst. leader, Fred Riggs; Sec.-treas., Mary Beach; and Asst. Sec.-treas., Marilyn Brunson. Kenneth Riggs is also reporter and Mary Hinds is subscription secretary. Mary says, "Pray for the young people here and everywhere that we may continue to do more for the cause of Christ."

* * *

Another letter from Claremore comes from Marilyn Brunson. She says, "Yesterday I received an FYC yearbook and I have already read quite a bit of it. It is a very inspirational book and I believe it can help any FYC group that uses it. Thank you so much for sending me one and I deeply appreciate it."

Planning Group Trip to Youth Camp

Moundsville, W. Va.—We are pleased with the response and activities of the FYC group in Moundsville, one of our more recently organized groups. From all indications we will be hearing many good reports from their efforts. Moundsville's pastor, Elder Garland Brunson, writes that a carload of young people from there will go to Michigan youth camp this summer. The FYC group is planning a money-raising project to pay ex-

penses. Elder Brunson writes, "We are looking forward to a good youth camp this summer. I know if the Lord is there it will be good, and we expect the Lord to be present during the meeting."

PINS! PINS! PINS!

You may well be tired of our pleas to get your orders in for FYC pins. We have been stressing it for the past several issues. As I write this, the deadline is less than five days away and we have about 130 orders. We need a total of 200 orders in order to have the pins made so the next few days will tell the story. If you have not yet ordered for yourself or your group as you read this, you might still squeeze your order in under the fence. But do hurry! There will be no further announcement of this other than whether or not the goal was met.

"Respond" with Ideas

Denver, Colorado—Bonnie Breinig sends us a request for a Yearbook, and a list of their officers for 1964. They are: Leader, Corrine Churchwell; Asst. Leader, Bonnie Breinig; and Sec.-treas., Sharon Churchwell.

Says Bonnie, "Since our password for 1964 is RESPOND I thought it was about time I did something about it. I would like to start by telling you how much I enjoy AIM. I like all of the articles in it, but especially the new addition, "Grow More in '64"...

"...I also have another idea, one which I don't know whether or not would work. I think it would be nice if we could have an annual printed of all of the young people from all over the U.S. If it would be possible to do this it would help to raise funds

by selling them to the young people themselves. This would probably include individual photos plus candid shots taken at the different camp meetings from all the districts. This sounds like an awful lot to do, but I think it would be well worth it if it were possible all all."

Enthusiasm on the Increase

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma—Young people's programs have again been resumed here. The group is getting larger and showing more enthusiasm. In February the Youth Rally offering of \$8.00 went to Foreign Missions, and literature was sent to missionaries. In March the \$10 offering was used for Home Missions. Another youth rally is planned for Saturday night, May 9th. Leaders in the last two youth rallies were Sarah Self, Lucille Butrick, and Helen Pruitt.

DR. VICTOR REEH

Those of you who have shown interest in the identity and whereabouts of Dr. Victor Reeh, may be interested to know she is still with us—Cecyl Fischer. We are still appreciating her helpful articles, though in a different capacity.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED?

We would like to have all FYC groups and all unorganized or isolated young people to register. There have been changes in address, members, marital status, etc., since our last registration two years ago. It is also necessary to register if you wish to qualify for a gold merit award. Send names, birthdates, addresses and whether your members are single or married to: Elden Fischer, 10601 E.

26th St., Independence, Missouri.

This is what our files show to date: National registration, 751; Oklahoma, 98; Oregon, 97; Texas, 88; Michigan, 76; California, 60; Missouri, 52. Nigeria has registered 191, not counted above.

Have you been counted? Register and be sure!

SAMUEL, Where Are You?

In Bible times, before the printing of the Scriptures as we know them today, the Lord would speak directly to His chosen leaders. Moses proved that one need not be a natural born leader to direct in the work of the Lord. The Scriptures give us the commission "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel" and further instructs us of our obligation to take the gospel to others. Preaching must not be limited to the church and the pulpit. There are many even more effective ways of preaching the gospel.

Today the Lord still speaks to youth in other ways than He spoke to Samuel. When you hear a still small voice, don't dismiss it as a dream. Go! Say, "Lord, speak for thy servant heareth." We need fewer people who say "Send Aaron," and more who say, "I'll go." The Lord wants volunteers. Don't wait to hear His voice in a tornado.

Samuel, where are you? We need your help!

Call No. 1—During the month of May we hope to purchase tapes, filmstrips, and slides of churches and departmental work. Your con-

tributions for this project are needed. Catalogues and your suggestions on good filmstrips are solicited. We also need tapes of good local youth programs and talent for the audio-visual library.

Call No. 2—We would like to receive your materials for our next yearbook of programs, poems, and projects. How about writing and producing your own programs with your local group? Send us all good program materials. For ideas check the 1964 Yearbook now available.

Call No. 3—We need someone to help design a poster to announce the monthly youth rallies. If you can design a poster, someone may be able to draw it. The bottom of this printed poster would be left blank to fill in the time, theme, and place of the Rally.

Call No. 4—Help develop and make available a new chorus book. If you learn or hear a good, new chorus get the chorus on tape and others can learn it.

Call No. 5—Are you willing to distribute by mail, door to door, or person to person, handbills to advertise "Faith for Our Time?" We will print one folder on which you write in your own local station and time. Are you willing to advertise a Bible Truth program? Let us know how many you would like.

Call No. 6—Can you help by drawing up some rules for having quiz team competition on portions of the Bible at the local groups? Quizzing, such as Youth for Christ

has, could be an interesting activity and valuable to our program.

Call No. 7—Can we count on you to send us pictures and information about your local FYC to print in a yearbook of pictures? We would like to get some response on this now. If we can count on your support and prompt cooperation, this could be a very interesting project of 1964. We can encourage others with pictures of our local group and activities.

Call No. 8—Our "Grow more in '64" program needs a director. This could make possible the selection of a national winner in this program. Can our youth have some of your time and efforts?

* * *

CHRISTIAN ENVIRONMENT AT SPRING VALE

(Continued from page 23)

sometimes as a result of this, we hold baptismal services at the end of our revival.

There is also time for recreation in a Christian way under the direction of a faculty member.

If you would like your child to grow up in a Christian environment, send him or her to Spring Vale Academy for the next four years, where they put God first.

* * *

NEEDED: Sponsor(s) to finance 12 "Aim" subscriptions (at \$2 each) to Elder Tikili in Nigeria for distribution to youth leaders there.

Register Now . . . for Youth Camp

Choose one of the three camps most convenient for you to attend. Send your inquiries and registrations to the proper personnel listed below:

If you choose

Silver Falls State Park Camp

near SILVERTON, OREGON, JUNE 10-17, write to:
Elder Rudolph Haffner, Route 3, Box 707, Junction City, Oregon

Or if the Midwest is your spot, then

Sagmount Bible Camp

near JOPLIN, MISSOURI, is the place to be JUNE 14-21.

Write to the camp director, Elden Fischer, 10601 East 26th, Independence, Missouri, for camp folders and information. **Send your registration to Mrs. Betty Crawford, 10708 Bales, Kansas City Missouri—accompanied by a \$3 registration fee.** The total camp fee (including registration) will be \$15 per camper (\$12.50 per camper for 3 or more from a family).

If the Great Lakes is your destination, let

Sleeper State Park Camp

near CASEVILLE, MICHIGAN, be your home JUNE 21-28.

Write to Elder Floyd Turner, Route 5, Owosso, Michigan.

----- Registration Blank 1964 -----

I desire to attend the Christian Youth Camp of the Church of God

(7th Day) at
I pledge to abide by all the camp rules and regulations.

Name

Address

Age Boy or Girl Home Phone
(at camp time)

I plan to come by: car bus other

My registration fee of \$..... is enclosed.

Parent's signature
(for campers under 18)

(One application to be filled out for each camper. Copies of the form may be made for additional campers.)

(Send your registration in by May 15 if possible.)