

Five Youth Camps for '67 . . .

MICHIGAN YOUTH CAMP—JULY 2-9

Mill Lake Outdoor Center (Chelsea, Michigan)

Ages 9-19

A Brochure is available; write to:

Elder Floyd A. Turner, Route 5, Owosso, Michigan 48867

OKLAHOMA YOUTH CAMP—AUGUST 20-26

Murray State Park, Ardmore, Oklahoma

Write to:

Allan R. Burlison, 4623 South Toledo, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74135

CENTRAL STATES YOUTH CAMP—JUNE 11-18

(Note the corrected date for this Youth Camp)

Camp Pa He Tsi, of the Lake of the Ozarks State Park
(Kaiser, Missouri)

Ages 9-18

A brochure is available, write to the camp registrar:

Mrs. Ethel Lawson, 515 Park Street, Stanberry, Missouri 64489

CALIFORNIA YOUTH CAMP—AUGUST 6-12

Pacific Pines Camp (2 miles west of Crestline, California)

Ages 13-20. Registration begins June 1, 1967

A Brochure is available; write to:

Elder Victor Youngs, 143 N. Vine, Ontario, California

OREGON YOUTH CAMP—JUNE 19-25

North Falls Youth Camp

Silver Creek Falls State Park, Silverton, Oregon

Write to:

Elder Nathan Straub, 6021 S. E. 87th Ave., Portland, Oregon 97266

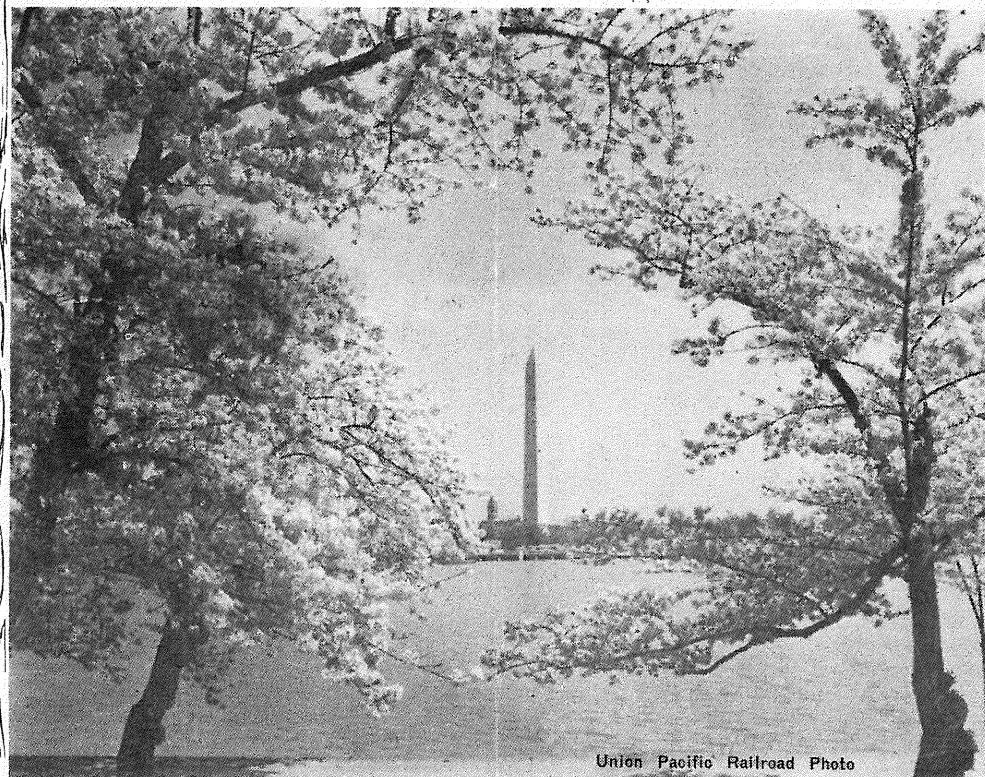
Aim

The magazine for young people

LIFE IS . . .

By Carolyn Clements

What is life or peace or unsuppressible joy
But to know the love and mercy of God,
And to rest assured that the Father guides
Each timid step and hears each silent prayer,
And to know without a doubt that someday soon
We shall understand what life and joy and peace really are?



Union Pacific Railroad Photo

Aim The magazine for young people

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Hope E. Dais, Editor

Not a day passes over the earth but men and women of no note do great deeds, speak great words, and suffer noble sorrows. Of these obscure heroes, philosophers, and martyrs the greater part will never be known till that hour when many that were great shall be small, and the small great.

—CHARLES READE

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BRADEN ACRES
GRADE SCHOOL

The Apron

Strings Bit . . .

By Clare Miseles

Larry practically pushed Bud out of the door in an awful hurry to get out of the house before his mother saw them. First, she insisted on meeting the boy who was driving the car on the field trip—and now—(he could feel irritation mounting by the second) now—if she came running to “Godspeed” them off—well . . . this apron strings bit was getting to him, that’s what!



“Sometimes, they just won’t let go—” Larry tried hard to laugh it off, and turned to Bud so that he could join in.

But Bud was serious and his mouth a grim line. He made a half turn, eyed Larry for a moment, and said, “You’re lucky!”

“Me, lucky?” Larry laughed, and scratched his head, wondering how Bud had reached that conclusion.

“Maybe I shouldn’t say lucky—maybe I should say *blessed* instead,” said Bud, still dead serious.

“I don’t get it—” Larry scratched his head, again.

“You’ve got a mother—”

“Don’t we all?” laughed Larry.

Bud shook his head. “I—I don’t”

“Oh, I’m sorry—” Larry’s laughter halted. “I—I didn’t know your mother is dead—”

“She isn’t—”

“I—I don’t understand—”

“My mother and dad are separated.”

And his mother came running, all right! She dashed out of the kitchen and made it to the front door like a regular track star. Her brown head peeked out, her hand waved lovingly, and her voice oozed with devotion, as she called out, “Have fun . . . and God be with you both.”

Larry gave Bud a quick glance and exclaimed, “Mothers!” It was all he could say, and he hoped Bud would understand and not take him for a “mama’s boy.”

Bud just kept his eyes on the road and didn’t answer.

"Oh—" Larry shook his head. "That's—that's tough—"

"You can say that again!" Bud's voice dripped with bitterness. "I—I don't even know where I belong!"

"Oh!" Larry was beginning to understand, and asked, "Do you live with your mother?"

Bud's head shook fast.

"Can't you?" asked Larry.

Bud's head went up and down. "I could," he went on to explain, "but my mother doesn't care—"

Larry didn't know what to say, but Bud did. "So you're blessed." He turned to Larry. "See what I mean—"

"Sure—" answered Larry, sheepishly. "I—I guess I am—but you know mothers, sometimes they try to tie you with the apron strings—"

"Apron strings?" repeated Bud in a rising tone. "You mean because your mother cares what happens to you, you call that apron strings?"

Larry opened his mouth, but Bud beat him to it. "Look at the greats! Behind every one there's been a woman—usually a mother! Look at Lincoln! He had *two!* Both his own mother and stepmother believed in books and learning. They pushed him—they cared! If it weren't for them, he might have ended up clearing land like his father wanted him to do!"

o ——— o

"Yes, you sure are blessed—" grinned Bud, later, when he dug into a three-layer sandwich Larry's mother had prepared.

Larry ate in silence, flashing a grin back at Bud, and thinking all the time. There was a lot to what Bud said, all right. The more he thought, the more he realized that the "apron strings" bit was highly over-played.

His mother never really held him back. All she did was listen and suggest and guide whenever she could. "What if she didn't?" he asked himself. "Would I like it?" He didn't have to probe for the answer. He knew he wouldn't.

By the time he got home it was dark, but his heart was lighted up with a thousand candles.

"Did you have a good time?" asked his mother, eager to hear what happened.

"Better than that!" grinned Larry.

"You learned something!" laughed his mother.

"Sure did!" Larry laughed with her.

"What?"

"That I'm blessed—" answered Larry, half smiling, half serious.

"That I know," said his mother, sitting down beside him to lovingly touch the curve of his well-shaped head and broad shoulders. "That I have known... for a long time.... Thank God."—*Lighted Pathway*

SPRINGTIME RENEWAL

A little faith, a little prayer,
A little knowing God is there
To bless, to comfort, and to bring
Into our hearts the joy of Spring!

Just as the earth becomes renewed
In Springtime's heavenly dress,
We, too, can find renewal
Of our hopes and happiness.

We have only to look to days ahead—
Greet each new dawn with praise;
Breathe of the fragrance of earth's
fair yield—

Keep in tune with her beauteous ways!
—*Charlotte Neuls*

Men and Trees

By Barbara Lucas

God created many wonderful and beautiful things upon earth. Among the highest and most stately of His creations was MAN; whom God created in His own image. Man was blessed above all other creatures of the earth in that he was made a little lower than the angels. He was given dominion over all the other creations of the earth; and all things were made for his comfort and enjoyment. Man was given a wonderful world to live in, as long as he abode within the Will of God.

In God's creation, we find that trees have been a vital part of nature since the beginning. Besides being one of the important sources of food for mankind, trees were also made to beautify the earth. For what could be more beautiful to look upon than an autumn scene of a forest mountainside; or a spring scene when new life shoots forth from every bough? Just imagine what the world would look like without trees. We would have no shade to enjoy on a hot summer day. We would not have houses

to live in, because it takes trees to make lumber. We would not have many of the fruits and other foods we enjoy without trees. So God knew that trees were essential to the livelihood of man.

From the beginning of time, even until this present day, trees have had an effect upon the lives of people spiritually, as well as physically. I think it would be interesting to consider a few of the instances in which trees affected and still affect the lives of men.



In the beginning, God planted a beautiful garden, in which grew all manner of lovely things and every tree that was pleasant to look upon and good for food. In this garden He placed the first man which He created. It was his job to dress the garden and keep it. He also put a woman there to help the man.

Among all the trees that grew

in the garden was the Tree of Life, of which man could freely eat, as long as He obeyed God's will. Also among the trees of the garden grew the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. This tree was a forbidden tree for man to use. God told Adam that the day he disobeyed and ate of that tree, he would surely die.

It seemed that from the beginning people were very much influenced through the medium of sight. It has been hard for mankind to resist those things appealing to the eye. Even today this is the downfall of many good people. It was through the lust of the eyes and the beguiling of a serpent that "a tree" became the object of the first sin committed by man; and because he ate of "that tree" death passed upon all mankind. Gen. 3:6 tells us, "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof and did eat, and gave also to her husband with her, and he did eat."

After man had disobeyed and sinned, his peace of heart left him, and fear filled his heart. He knew he had sinned and was afraid, so now he had to hide from God. "And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day; and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the 'trees of the garden'" (Gen. 3:8). Here we see that sinful man tried to use "trees" as a hiding

place from the face of God, but unsuccessfully. He found he had to face his Maker and give an account for what he had done. We cannot hide from God today either. "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good" (Prov. 15:3).

To Elijah, the tree portrayed a place of discouragement. "And the hand of the Lord was upon Elijah... And Ahab told all that Elijah had done, and withal how he (Ahab) had slain all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah saying, So let the gods do to me and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time. When he saw that, he arose and went for his life... But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat under a Juniper tree; and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers" (1 Kings 19:1-4).

The wicked king and queen were slaying those who would not bow to Baal and worship him. Elijah being a true servant of God would not sin against the Lord. So they sought his life also. He was so discouraged, because he felt he was the only one left who loved God. But under that tree of discouragement, there came an angel and ministered unto him. Later he found out that God had seven thousand left in Israel who had not bowed to Baal.

In the life of Zacchaeus, the tree was the object of an earnest seeker. He climbed up in a sycamore tree to see Jesus. Zacchaeus was chief among the publicans and was rich. To those who knew him, it must have appeared quite silly for a man of his reputation and means to be up in a tree seeking Jesus who was to pass that way. Jesus saw his sincerity and called him down. Zacchaeus gladly received Christ that day and salvation came to his house. Are we as earnest about our salvation?

Most important to us should be when the tree became the scene of the great Love of God for fallen, sinful mankind. Although it was the most terrible of all tragedies when Jesus, the Son of God, perfect and sinless, hanged upon the tree; today that scene of tragedy becomes a scene of Salvation and rejoicing to all those who look back to "That Tree" and accept the sacrifice which took our place there. "That Tree" becomes the "Tree of Life" to as many as will receive the Saviour's atonement for their sins. As lost sinners, we cannot hide from the presence of God, as Adam and Eve tried to do among the trees; but the Cross of Calvary, "That Tree," is the only hiding place for the sinner. We can take all our sins and burdens and leave them at the Cross, for Christ has borne them in His own body on the tree. We can come away from that tree a new person, free from sin and

transformed in soul and spirit.

As we look back, we see then that "the tree" was the place of the first sin and the death of mankind spiritually and physically. We can also look back to "the tree" with encouragement; for this is also where sin ends and life begins anew! One has never really lived until he has experienced life in Christ and with it, the promise of Eternal Life with God.

To a Christian the tree should always hold a special significance, and these following words should be very dear to us: "For even hereunto were ye called; because Christ also suffered for us;... Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on 'The Tree,' that we being dead to sin, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes we are healed."

A Christian in the Word of God is often compared to the tree, because we were created to possess many of the qualities of good trees. We are to be upright and strong. We are to be fruitful as a good tree. Most trees lift their arms up to God from whence they get their life; and so should we. We should be rooted and grounded—not tossed or swayed by every wind of doctrine. When the storms of life come upon us, we'll not be moved because we are grounded in Christ. Jesus said our character and life will be known by the fruit we bear. Certainly this is true of the literal tree. An apple tree cannot bear pears,

(Continued on page 25)

Self Denial

By Barbara Burrell

SELF-DENIAL, WHAT IS IT? SELF-DENIAL IS THE ACT OF DENYING ONE'S SELF; THE ACT OF FOREBEARING TO FULFILL ONE'S DESIRES.

Self-denial is the most important of the Christian graces. The scriptures teach us to cultivate it as one of the virtues that lead us into the path that God would have us tread. We are given as our Great Example the self-denial of the Master.

In Philippians we are told that Christ took up the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of man. He even humbled Himself and became obedient unto the death of the cross. He could have set up a kingdom and had many servants under Him. Instead, He wanted to set an example for us to follow.

Nevertheless, even with these admonitions and with Jesus as our model, we still find self-denial one of the most difficult of the graces to attain. Man, by nature, is selfish and inclined to seek his own pleasure and comfort before giving a thought to that of his neighbor.

SINCE WE ARE BORN SELFISH, DOES THIS GIVE US AN EXCUSE TO BE THAT WAY? No! We should put away all selfishness. For

Christ says in Philippians 2:4, "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Selfishness is the exclusive regard for one's own interest or happiness; a supreme sort of self-love, self-interest which leads its possessor to ignore the interest and happiness, rights and privileges of others. The Bible says that selfishness is a sin and warns us to beware of it as a snare of the devil.

HOW CAN ONE OVERCOME SELFISHNESS? Let's try putting on humility. When we are humble we don't attribute to ourselves any goodness that we don't have, we don't overrate ourselves. We realize our downfallings and give all the glory to God. The Bible says that humility is pleasing to God, and Christ also set our pattern of humility.

When the disciples came to Christ and asked who was the greatest in the Kingdom, He told them that whosoever humbles himself the same is the greatest in the kingdom. He also tells

us in James that if we humble ourselves in the sight of the Lord, then He will lift us up.

CHRIST HUMBLED HIMSELF WHEN HE BORE THE CROSS for our sins. He gave up His life so we could have eternal life. People spit in His face, called Him names, and yet He went through it all with humility. Even at the cross He had com-

passion on the people and said, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

Christ teaches us humility throughout the Bible. We read in Psalms that although the Lord is high, yet He hath respect to the lowly; but the proud he knoweth afar off. Therefore, one must deny self and follow after Christ. Let's be as the publican and not as the pharisee.

Almost Persuaded

By a Spring Vale Academy Student

I was inspired to write this article after a young lady gave a testimony about a girl who was almost persuaded. This girl had lived, knowing part of the truth—yet she wasn't yet ready to believe, nor yet persuaded.

This young girl was raised in a Christian home all her life. She had gone to church and to the Youth Camp; yet she never really found the Lord. She started getting in the wrong crowd and enjoying the wrong things. She often mentioned that she would like to be converted and baptized—also really wanting to seek the Lord. But, she thought of the things that she had done in her past life and was still doing, and she felt that Christ could never forgive her. This was one thing she had never been taught in her life.

She should have been taught that there was enough blood shed on Calvary to cover all the sins in this world.

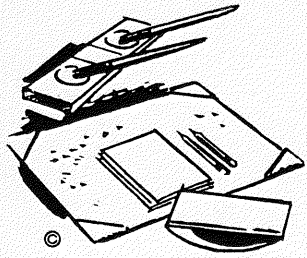
This girl was almost persuaded. Maybe in the future, by the grace of God, she will find the way.

The Psalms have a wonderful message along this line. "For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth, the poor also and him that hath no helper."

"He shall spare the poor and needy, and shall save the souls of the needy, He shall redeem their soul from deceit and violence: and, precious shall their blood be in his sight" (Psalm 72:12-14).

If your excuse is that you have done too many wrong things for

(Continued on page 25)



*A stirring testimony
from a teenager.*

Dear Friends,

Do you wake up with a melody running through your mind, and joy and enthusiasm making you restless to dig into a new day full of work, play, and service for the Master? Is there an eager determination in your heart to conquer the difficult homework, the tedious jobs, the subtle temptations, and to get other young people "on fire" for God? Are you sincerely and eagerly ready to go all out in doing what God wants you to do?

Or do you wake up and lie in bed thinking how easy it would be to just stay there, forget that impossible Chemistry assignment, skip work—maybe get up and watch television after awhile? Maybe you are restless, but in a different way; do you really know what life is good for and what you are going to do with it? What if you do lounge around for a while and go out with the crowd for some fun later on? You can't convince me that you will feel at peace with yourself, satisfied afterward. When the fun is gone, so is everything else. Then is when you feel empty, restless, moody—not knowing what you really want.

Maybe you have thought about this kind of feeling before and have been searching for something that makes life worth living and full of happiness. I'm going to give you the answer that my friends and I have found, and I wouldn't doubt that you know what I'm going to say: Christ is the answer.

I'm not telling you that just because that's

what someone told me, and I'm not saying it because that is the way Christians are expected to talk. I'm telling you that Someone can take that restlessness far away, because I know it's true. I found out for myself.

I saw it first in the lives of the young people who are now my best friends. They weren't perfect, they made mistakes; but the difference was that they talked with God about their problems and got off their knees with a greater strength to do what they knew was right. Sometimes they had tears in their eyes, but they always smiled in a way that made me know that they had something deep inside that was the answer to all my unhappiness.

I had always believed in God, read my Bible, prayed; I knew He existed but I just hadn't felt His power in my life. They had that Power and that made the difference.

I had never heard young people sing with such beautiful harmony and with such enthusiasm; these kids weren't like the kids back home who didn't know what they were singing about.

These young people made me realize that God was really for real, that I could talk to Him and feel His presence just as I could communicate with my friends. But He was a better Friend than they could ever be, because I could tell Him the things that I couldn't tell even them, and He understood and helped me.

Now the most important de-

sire of my heart is to show other young people that my God is real, and I only wish I knew how to do it better.

You may not believe this yet, but you'll never be really happy until you are willing to do anything that God asks. He is not trying to push you around with His authority, but He does want to show you with love where you will be happiest in life.

A person doesn't become perfect overnight (and will probably never be completely faultless in this earthly life), but he grows stronger in the right as he gets nearer to God and feels more and more of His incomprehensible love.

Failures are expected when we forget to let God make the decisions and solve the problems, but prayer can take care of that. God hears and He does what He knows will be best for us and everyone concerned.

I see answers to my prayers every day, and He has given me so much to be happy about! And I know that He will do the same for you; all that you have to do is ask and believe and thank Him when the answer comes.

"Without Him I could do nothing.

Without Him I'd surely fail.
Without Him I would be drifting
Like a ship without a sail.

Jesus, Oh, Jesus,
Do you know Him today?
Do not turn Him away.
Oh, Jesus, Oh, Jesus,
Without Him, how lost I
would be."

I Found What Really Counts

By
Carolyn
Clements

*"What you are speaks so loud
that the world can't hear what you say."*

What You Are!

By Joy Meader

A Christian is not just a person who has a certain set of doctrines and beliefs and who faithfully attends church every Sabbath. But a true Christian also lives the life of a Christian at all times. There are many things which make one a Christian. First, one has to be born again and become a child of God. Then he has to strive for a life of perfection by following in the steps of Jesus. Consider the following statement:

"Let me observe a person's appearance and conduct, and I will tell you if he is a Christian."

Too many people fail to realize that a true Christian is revealed by his appearance and conduct. No matter how holy one may appear to be in church, if he doesn't live the life of holiness every day and everywhere, he is not a Christian.

In 1 Peter 3:21, we are instructed to follow in Christ's steps.

"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps."

In following Christ's steps, a Christian must conduct himself as Christ would. A Christian will do the same things that Christ would do, go to the right places, and dress in like manner as would please Christ if He were here on earth today. Remember that in 1 Thessalonians 5:22, it tells us to abstain from all appearance of evil. No matter where a Christian may be, he should always represent Christ in his speech, actions, and appearance.

In Philippians 1:27, we read: *"Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel."*

A person's conversation is inseparable from his actions and conduct. Therefore, a Christian's actions should also be only that which becometh the gospel.

In Ephesians 5:22-24 we read: *"That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that ye put on the new man, which after God is*

created in righteousness and true holiness."

A Christian will be very careful. A person who appears to be religious at one time and is not religious at other times is not a Christian, but is a hypocrite.

As we learned from Ephesians 4:24, Christians are to have true holiness. And in Colossians 1:28 we find that every man is to be perfect in Christ Jesus. Each Christian should search his heart and let the Holy Spirit direct him in his conduct, dress, and appearance.

1 Thessalonians 4:1 tells us Christians are to walk and to please God. Verse seven says:

"For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness."

Therefore, Christians will not follow after worldliness and try always to look like the rest of the world. Can a man or a woman please God by following after the world in wearing extreme styles of clothing, or clothing which does not properly cover one's nakedness? Can a woman who paints herself like a Jezebel and adorns herself in jewelry, please God? As children of God, Christians are to be separated from the world. When a woman is decked in jewelry and painted up in an extreme manner, how is she separated from the world?

The apostle Paul in the epistle to Timothy gives wonderful instructions to every Christ woman:

"In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety, not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array, But (which

becometh women professing godliness) with good works."

Every woman who professes godliness must accept this part of the Bible as well as other parts. Of course, it is just as wrong for men to buy costly clothing and deck themselves in gold, as it is for women to do so. This shows vanity and pride.

Peter tells us that a Christian's adorning should be inward instead of outward, which is shown by the following verses:

"Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price" (1 Peter 3:3, 4).

God did not create women with bright red lips and red finger nails. Neither did God create women with dark blue or green shadows under her eyes. Why cannot women be satisfied with the way God has made them? God is looking for women who have the ornaments of a meek and quiet spirit—not for women who adorn themselves only on the outside.

True Christian Women will be satisfied with the way God has created them. Let every Christian examine his speech, conduct, actions, and appearance. As the result we should find ourselves *"denying ungodliness and worldly lusts and living soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world"* (Titus 2:12).

May we all strive for a life of perfection so that we may live to please our God.

Garment of Righteousness

By Nathan Straub

When Adam and Eve sinned, their eyes were opened and they saw that they were naked. They saw that they were in need; they needed a covering. The Bible says that all have sinned. There is no question about this; all are born with a curse of sin. Those who fail to come to God or are away from God are described as "wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked."

Adam and Eve, in their need, sewed fig leaves together to cover their shame. Men, today, try to cover their sin by "home made" garments of righteousness, for example:

- (1) *Do good to one's neighbor, or*
- (2) *Just so one believes in God, or*
- (3) *One only needs to do the best he can with what he knows, or*
- (4) *Be a responsible citizen, be loyal to God and country.*

Now, all of these four are good and are needed, but they do not in themselves constitute the whole righteousness which is acceptable to God.

Apparently God was not satisfied with the "fig leaf" garments which Adam and Eve fashioned for themselves. Neither is God satisfied with the many garments of righteousness which men fashion for themselves.

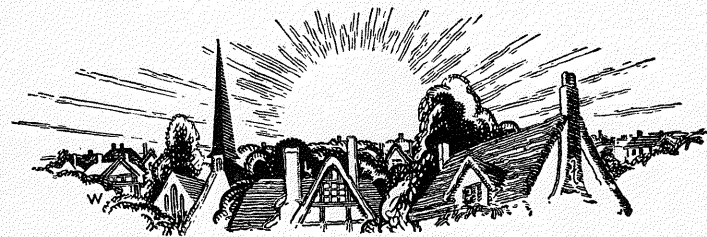
So God made for Adam and Eve coats of skins with which to cover their need. This was to show that they could not get along without God, no matter what their condition, no matter what they thought.

So it is that God does not allow men to manufacture their own forms of righteousness and call them acceptable. If men could fashion their own righteousness, they would soon forget God and count God useless. This itself would be unacceptable.

God has provided a wedding garment of righteousness through Jesus Christ. Our own righteousness is as filthy rags, but the right-

eousness that comes through Jesus Christ is as fine linen, clean and white. The only righteousness God says is acceptable is through His Son.

Christ did not die so that each man could make his own salvation. Christ died because it was the only way to bring salvation to mankind. He died because it was the only way whereby men could be saved. It was God's way, there is no other.



Sunshine Town

By Ione Weir

Last summer our family had the privilege of spending a vacation in Ontario, Canada. The area we were in is quite rugged—rocky and with very few towns. As we drove down the highway, we came to a sign telling us we were approaching a town—"Sunshine." The name suggested cheer and brightness. As we rounded the corner there it was—one sad unkempt logging building set back against the rock with a weather beaten sign—Sunshine Post Office. The building was a combination store—post office and meeting place. Probably on the inside there was friendliness and a busy spirit, but the outside looked sad and forlorn.

I couldn't help but think how much we are like that little town. We

put out the sign Christian—and on the inside we might be quite content and even busy thinking on the things of the Lord, but on the outside we are sad and discouraged-looking—sometimes we are even crabby and short with others. Our outward appearance belying the sign we put out and even the feeling we have within.

I am reminded of a teenage visitor to our church who positively glows. When you are up in front and she is in the congregation—the bright, happy, interested look on her face is a reward for your efforts. What a wonderful talent. It is one that we should be willing to try to develop. I wonder—should it be so hard for us to look joyful?

Tell Me, Please

QUESTION:

How long must a girl know a boy before she should accept a date with him?

ANSWER:

Good question! No simple, all-inclusive answer can be given because there are so many circumstances to consider.

If a young man comes from a reliable family background and has a reputation consistent with his family's, or if you have heard of the young man for some time and have friends who know him and can vouch for him, you might safely accept a date soon after your introduction.

On the other hand, if you just get acquainted at school and in some situation where you know nothing of the young man other than what you see and hear of him at the moment, it would pay to be cautious until you are sure that he will provide the kind of company that will be enjoyable.

It also depends on where you are going and what you plan to do. If you are being asked to go with some other couple to an event at your own church, it would seem quite acceptable to date early.

Youth Questions

answered by

Ray L. Straub



An evening out with good company, doing something worthwhile, can be most rewarding. If, however, you fail to exercise enough caution, you can end up having one of the most miserable experiences of a lifetime. Be sure you know what you are doing, when you accept a date. There is great danger in accepting an invitation too quickly.

QUESTION:

I want to wear my hair long like many of the other fellows are doing, but I am getting a lot of static from my parents about it. In fact, they just won't let me. What is wrong with long hair, anyway? Lots of others get to wear their hair long. I'm 15. Don't you think I'm old enough to know what I'm doing without all the nixing from my parents? So they don't agree with my taste—I don't agree with theirs!

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

ANSWER:

There is one thing you ought to get clear—crystal clear. That taste you think you have is not *taste!* You are just afraid you will be caught not conforming to some odd notions, even if that conformity makes you look like a displaced female gorilla!

You might as well see the light, friend, the task of trying to pass off long hair on a male as good taste is utterly impossible. You make the sad mistake of so many other ignorant and misguided narcissists, who attempt to apply acceptable labels to demonstrations of rebellion. It is a frustrating journey to untold misery, and only a self-awakening within you can prevent future anguish.

Take a new look at your good parents. We need more like them.

There are already far too many parents who take a horrified look at their sons effeminate hair-dos and then allow them. What an error this is! If you cannot be thankful because your parents have the courage to impose taste on their son who has none of his own, be patient. It will not be long before you know better why they are being so insistent.

God made you a man. If you survive your present rebellious mood you might even enjoy membership in your sex. You will never know what it is like to enjoy good company if a person has to study you carefully to know whether you are male or female. Consider using your head for something other than growing long hair.

QUESTION:

At the beginning of our Sabbath school class our teacher always allows five minutes for us to visit before beginning our class study. This gives

everyone a chance to get their talking out of the way. There are some though, who keep right on talking, laughing, and causing a disturbance even though the teacher asks them to be still. Could you say something about this?

ANSWER:

Yes, I can. You have an unfortunate situation with some of the students in their teens physically, but emotionally they are still children. Maturity means accepting responsibility. Every once in a while you find these grown but childish people who have not learned what it is to be a responsible student in a classroom.

You just have to keep asking them to quiet down, as you would little children. If this does no good, you have to ask them to sit with their parents, as you would children. If they do not obey (and they probably will not), you have to request their parents to keep them during Sabbath school, as they would little children.

While we must exercise as much patience and kindness in church as possible, I sincerely hope that your teacher will not allow these overgrown children to disrupt the valuable and short time you have in class to learn and discuss the precious and abiding Word of God. I think that Sabbath school class and the study of Scriptures must be respected, and *any* measure necessary to assure it is a basic necessity.

The real "big shot" who is also a big person never acts like a biggy at all. He has simple manners, and is kind and patient to every other human being whom he contacts. He is just as common as an old shoe, and it is a joy to know such a man.

So You've GRADUATED

Splashed across the top of a special feature page in a recent Sunday newspaper was this caption: "LIFE BEGINS AT 65."

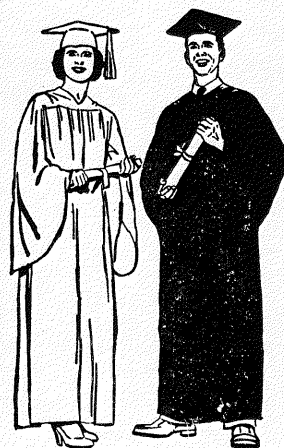
What a waste of years, then, I thought to myself. God has just allotted us 70 years ("three score years and ten"—Psalm 90:10). This leaves only five years for really living. And I thought the Lord wanted our *lives*, not just scraps of our lives.

The purpose of the caption was to show that life after 65 can be productive and rewarding, a time for fulfilling the dreams of earlier years. Several examples were related and photographed to prove it.

But for you who are just reaching the milestone of graduation from high school, college, or university it would be foolish to accept such a false premise. Life has already begun for you; it is only that you have now reached a new stage, a higher launching pad, you might say.

WHICH WAY?

Many graduates flounder in uncertainty and bewilderment for a period of time, not knowing what to make of their lives—



rather, not knowing *what God wants to make of their lives*. They experiment with this and that, wander here and there, hoping to strike on something that "rings a bell," something that seems to be "the thing." Graduation for them is a cross-roads experience when they must make the choice of direction.

This is regrettable, for a clear-cut decision for Christ ought to have been made long before graduation. And this decision is the cross-roads experience when we have a right to choose. After this choice is made, it is only for

-- NOW WHAT?

By Max M. Morrow

us to follow in the way the Lord leads.

Graduation, then, ought not to be a time of deciding, but a time of attaining—a time of achievement along the way we have already chosen.

Naturally, if the decision for Christ has not been made before, it surely ought to be made now—at graduation—before any more of life is wasted.

A saying that I can remember hearing my father mention many times goes something like this: "An educated fool is the worst fool of all." What youth with an education wants to "fool away" his life?

GUIDELINES FOR LIFE

Graduation for the Christian is actually a time of promotion in the field of service. Once as student, his life was lived for Christ; now his life is lived for Him as a skilled workman, a trained specialist, a certified professional.

The true disciple has learned the wisdom of these words:

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name

of the Lord..." (Colossians 3:17).

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord..." (Colossians 3:23).

"...Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31).

These words have already become a part of the graduate's life if he has truly committed himself to God. As such, they keep him from floundering when he reaches this important milestone. It is not a matter of "What am I going to do?" but "How am I going to do it?" The decision has already been made to live for the glory of God.

GLORIFYING GOD

Service to fellowmen is the greatest means of glorifying God that there is. Naturally, the more this service is directed toward fitting fellowmen for usefulness to God now and eternal life to come in the Kingdom of God, the greater the glory God receives.

Jesus one time said (in a parable), "... Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done

it unto me" (Matthew 25:40). And on another occasion He said, "... Whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all" (Mark 10:44).

Service to fellowmen does not go unnoticed in heaven. "Whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward" (Matthew 10:42). "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love..." (Hebrews 6:10).

STIMULUS FOR SERVICE

The natural inclination is to want to be served. This is the selfish way. But the self-LESS way is to do the serving. And this *self-less* way is naturally based on love.

This is graphically illustrated in the story of Luke 7:36-50. Here a Pharisee is pictured as hosting Jesus at mealtime, when an unchaste woman entered and wept at Jesus' feet, even anointing His feet with ointment. This she did to the embarrassment of the host. The lesson of the story is that love evokes service—service in return for blessings received.

It is love in the graduate's heart that speeds him on his way of service to God through service to his fellowmen. Without this love, this compassion, the graduate is merely a refrigerator in which is stored a wealth of facts and skills that are too cold to glorify God. Knowledge without compassion is as unpro-

ductive as a light bulb without electricity.

Graduation has come. You are caught up in the pomp and excitement of your achievement. Let the surety of your commitment to Christ keep your bearings. There is a trail chartered for you. Follow it faithfully as the Lord leads and you will find satisfaction in every step, with ecstatic joy awaiting at the finish line.

THE SUNSET YEARS

By Karen Walker

I hear people both old and young
Speak of the sunset years,
That "time of times," long after we're
born—
That's when death we should fear.

We stand on thin ice when we say
there's time—
Time to repent of our sins,
For not one of us knows how long
we shall live.
No! even the smartest of men.

We may meet death tomorrow,
Or maybe yet today—
Or maybe we'll live a hundred years.
Which of us can say?

Only God knows the hour and place
We'll stand before His throne.
On that fair day will He reject us.
Or accept us as His own.
When on judgment day we meet,
Will we cry amidst our tears,
"How foolish we were that waited—
Waited for our sunset years"?

Trouble is often the instrument
necessary to reform the ungodly.
—*War Cry*

Editorial

Anyone who backs up to take a realistic glance at life with humanity recognizes the fact that the negative approach to many things seems to be the stronger.

A pianist can tell you that she may play ever so many harmonic notes, but the one discord is what will be sharply noticed.

A housewife will tell you that she can spend her day tidying the house, ironing wrinkled clothing, wiping fingermarks away; but inevitably her husband's comment that evening will concern the item which is out of place (which he's hunting for)—or the particular shirt he had wanted to wear, but *didn't* get ironed.

This is not to say that her husband is a tyrant—nor that he *looks* purposely for the negative approach, nor even that he comments unkindly about the undone tasks. But this is life! We notice more quickly what's been neglected. Paul must have recognized this when he cautioned in 1 Thessalonians 5:22: "Abstain from all appearance of evil."

Perhaps we are inclined to apply this advice only to specific activities which we feel might be labeled as worldly if we were seen participating.

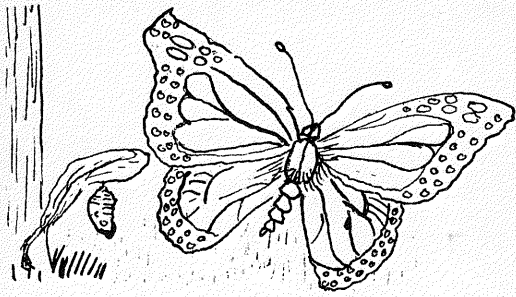
However, we must apply this to the more incidental aspects of our living. Do you really think you can squeal your car around the corner in a reckless fashion—and expect people will not notice who it is—and think, "Huh, Christian young people"?

Do you think you can carry on a rather rowdy show-off type of conversation on a street corner or in a store, and not be noticed? —Even *one* performance, and it will be remembered—remembered not just in connection with you as an individual—but in view of you as a follower of Christ. It will be remembered much more vividly than such a conversation from a youth not professing a life for Christ.

Is it permissible to be seen—even once—in a manner of dress that is unbecoming to a Christian young person? Don't think you'll go unnoticed. That one time you appear in poor taste may be the one time in a long period of time that some certain individual sees you and forms a particular opinion.

Discouraging? I don't think it needs to be. The one rule we need to follow is to live the life for Christ in every small aspect. We can't take a vacation from this vocation even for a moment.

Remember, few of your neighbors or acquaintances see or hear what goes on within the four walls of your church. The stirring testimony you give at FYC meeting will not in any way upgrade the poor testimony of your squealing tires on the pavement.



The Chrysalis

By Martha Heavilin

Although his stay was short, I learned a tremendous lesson from this little creature. It began one fall day when my little sister, Becky, found a worm while she was playing outside. She put it in a jar, and placed it upon the piano. Soon it formed a chrysalis, and for the next few months we completely forgot about our little visitor.

Then, as we were gathered around the piano one cold February evening for our family worship, we noticed a beautiful blue and black swallowtail butterfly in place of the chrysalis.

If it had not been for us, the poor thing would have died soon, for it could not have survived in the cold winter weather. We fed it and cared for it, until it came to the place where it liked to rest on our hands more than on the curtains or furniture of our home. It trusted us to feed it and care for it. Although we had a hard time feeding it honey-water without getting its wings sticky, we had hopes of its living until the weather became warm. Then one afternoon it rested on a window sill, looking outside at the sunshine and snow. It remained there when evening came, but it had carelessly chosen to sit next to a cracked window in which the cold winter wind was whistling. The next morning we found it frozen in this same position—looking out the window.

The poor butterfly reminded me of our relationship with the Lord. We, like the butterfly, are so out of place in this cold world of sin, and are dependent upon God for both our spiritual and physical strength, just as the song states that without Him, how lost we would be! But God has promised to care for us until the "spring" of life, or God's eternal kingdom, frees us from worry and care. God can take care of us as long as we trust in Him, but once we let ourselves carelessly turn to the world and forget God's love, God cannot help us. We can, however, turn back to God's protection, if we ask His forgiveness.

Make a Mark of Merit

By Nathan Lawson

This month, I just want to encourage you in your service for Christ. Our labor is never in vain in the Lord (1 Cor. 15: 58). Young people's lives can be the greatest of lights for Christ. God depends on us to "let our lights shine." If we let Him down, we fail God and ourselves.

Do you find it hard sometimes to be a Christian and remain true to Christ? Most young people face this difficulty sometime in their life. It is natural to want to be like the young people who are around us and with whom we associate.

This is the main reason that we want your local FYC group to have an active program of activities for you. This should include interesting devotionals as well as socials and recreation. The Mark of Merit program is designed to make your group an active FYC group. Be an active FYC member. It will help you face problems and make right decisions.

PROJECT OF THE MONTH

Bring a friend to Church. To

Let us take a lesson from this butterfly and put our complete, unwavering trust in God before it is too late. We do not want to die from our mistake as the butterfly did.

"Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed" (Psalm 37:3).

complete this project, each FYC member should bring someone to Church at least once during this month. If your FYC group can complete this project, it will be a fine witness to those that you invite to Church. This project will be a real challenge to you FYC members. I know that God will bless you if you complete this project. The person you bring may make his decision to accept Christ and His precious Truth.

Ask for a Report Blank

If your group did not receive the Merit System Report Sheet for the first Quarter of 1967, PLEASE write and ask for it immediately. My address is Midwest Bible College, Stanberry, Missouri.

GIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO AIM

AIM is a magazine designed especially for you, the Christian Youth. Take time to read it each month. Give a gift subscription to a friend. Maybe your FYC group can give gift subscriptions as a project.

SPRING VALE ACADEMY

A film on the life of Samuel Morris was enjoyed by all this year. It was seen April 5. It proved to be very inspiring, showing us that we as Christians need to seek for more of the Holy Spirit to be our Comforter. "Angel in Ebony" touched the hearts of all and made us realize where we so often fall short and as a consequence never obtain much of the joy we could have.

Most of the faculty and students of Spring Vale went to Battle-Creek for the state all-day meeting. A real blessing was received by all who went.

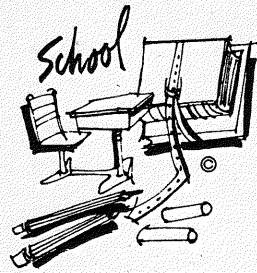
Spring Vale was greatly privileged with the Midwest Bible College Team's presentations, March 24 and 26. God blessed us as we fellowshiped one with another. Elder Dale Lawson gave some inspiring sermons which made us all stop and examine our lives.

The students enjoyed the opportunity they had of witnessing and bringing cheer to the shut-ins at Pleasant View Hospital and Griffin Rest Home in Corunna.

Many laughs and memories of old times were shared with Patchens one Saturday night at recreation as the Patchens showed their home movies. We had a most enjoyable evening.

"Mudhole" is a common term here at Spring Vale, but we are encouraged by the efforts that are being put forth to restore our place to a lovely campus with beautiful flowers blooming all around. The Junior Miss Club is sending out aprons which encourage all to give a little offering for this effort.

We all praise and thank the Lord



School Reports

much for His many blessings unto us. This month our Heavenly Father's goodness was shown to us as we received our long-awaited-for new school bus. If you ask anyone from Spring Vale, you will find how much it is appreciated.

"Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and wonderful works to the children of men!" (Psalm 107:8).

* * *

MIDWEST BIBLE COLLEGE

Greetings from Midwest. The end of the school year is drawing near. Each week and month seems to hold more work, plans, and programs.

The college and church young people have put on Singspirations at the newly established King City Convalescent Home near Stanberry.

Several students have busied themselves working on the college annual in recent months. We are all sure everyone will enjoy it and appreciate the hard work they have put into it.

The Trio San Pablo presented an evening of music at the high school gymnasium March 18. Dan Camero,

Gilbert Sanchez and Elder Noah Camero are the members of this trio. Israel Bravo assisted them. The program was part of the Soul-Winning Crusade by the Stanberry Church.

A Religious Census was taken previous to the Trio's presentation.

As a finale to the Crusade, revivals were held April 7-15 with Elder Nelson Caswell from Denver as the speaker. Some came forward for the first time and gave themselves to God. Many were drawn closer to God throughout the meetings. Music was presented by the Youth Team, Sacred Melodies Trio, the Men's Quartet, and many others. Brothers Lael Tikili and Daniel Camero presented a song in partly the Ibo language and partly in English.

The annual college banquet was

MEN AND TREES

(Continued from page 7)

nor a pear tree—apples. A Christian cannot bear sinful fruits, nor a sinner—fruits of righteousness.

Let us always look to "The Tree of Calvary" and strive to be as fruit-bearing trees to the honor and glory of Him who died for us.

A tree is such a sacred thing.
I never knew just why—
Until I saw my Saviour, Christ,
Stretched on a tree to die;
And now I know why poets sing
About a common tree,
As if it were a sacred thing
Of God-like destiny.
For 'twas on a tree
He took my place;
That all my sins
He might erase.

held in the church basement on April 16. The theme was "Light the Way for Others." Israel Bravo's chalk drawing of an angry sea beating against a lighthouse was very impressive. Across the room, the beam from a hand-made lighthouse illuminated a small boat being tossed about in the waves. This expressed the meaning of the theme very well. We as Christians are to let our lights so shine that we may lead others to God.

April 23rd, the Lord's Supper was partaken of in the church. Brother Mark Ling presented a very inspiring song.

All of us at Midwest covet your prayers that we may be strong in our labors for God.

—Mary Ellen Walter

ALMOST PERSUADED

(Continued from page 9)

the Lord to forgive you, then this is what makes you almost persuaded. Remember that God didn't say that he who sins a little can be saved and he who sins a lot won't be. God has and will forgive anyone who will call on Him sincerely. If you seek Him with a full heart—not just half-heartedly—you will find out He has been waiting for you to ask Him for help.

The students here at Spring Vale really draw close to the Lord. We learn to give all we have to God—not holding back anything.—Not being among those who are "almost persuaded."

Remember: He shed enough blood for you and me both. With no exception.

My Father's Business

No Christian is as short-sighted as the one who constantly says that there is "nothing to do." Such a person must either be a hermit with no outside contacts, or else a self-centered person, not at all concerned with the needs of others.

Our Saviour spent His life on earth helping others. He encouraged them with His words, uplifted them with His deeds, challenged them with His prayers, and saved them with His blood. Jesus came not to be the chief among us, but to be the servant of all.

Young folks, do you recognize the need of being servant of all? Your good deeds may be small—even to helping the little old lady across the street—but Jesus said that even a cup of water given in His name would bring its reward. Learn to be aware of the needs of others—the poor, the homeless, the suffering, the stranded. Many of us have something worth giving to make another person happier. It would be unnecessary to list here a number of opportunities which might present themselves for Christian service. Many will come to you if you will live by the motto, "Lord, help me live for others, that I might live like Thee."

Often we feel it may inconvenience or detain us to lend a helping hand. This may be true at times, but consider how much more important and better it is to give than to receive. Are our activities so important that the needs of others become trampled in the dust? Remember that Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye did it NOT to one of the least of these my brethren, ye did it NOT unto me."

I would not want any of us to minimize the power of kind words appropriately spoken to help other folks. Some people live in situations where most conversation is harsh or worthless; we would be amazed if we knew the difference that soft answers of encouragement could make in lifting spirits and bringing cheer.

It is well to mention here that our responsibility to "others" does not end when we walk up our own front steps. Every young person will find real joy in being helpful at home, and Mother and Dad will be easy to get along with, too.

I want each one of us to begin to really become aware of those in need. People everywhere are searching, hoping, hungering, need-

(Continued on page 31)

From Across the Seas

F.Y.C. LEADER REPORTS FROM TRINIDAD WEST INDIES.

"Dear Sister Hayford,

"Greetings in Jesus Holy Name. I am Youth Leader of the Cumuto F. Y. C. where Elder Weekes is the Pastor.

"For the year 1967, we have registered ourselves with the government of this country as a national youth movement of Trinidad and Tobago, with the hope of getting help when needed. Since we are a body that they know, it would give us the right to do missionary work in the Institutions. Right now, we are distributing tracts in our district on Sabbath afternoons. We have begun this on the Sabbath of January 7, 1967, and wherever we meet aged people who are in need, we try to give what help we can. After we have finished that, we return to the Church for our usual young people's meeting. To follow, is a list of the young people at Cumuto."

Name	age	sex	address
1. Angela Thomas	18	F	} c/o Allen Lane, Quacico Langre Grande Trinidad, West Indies (All have same address)
2. Jennifer Thomas	13	F	
3. Frederick Thomas	11	M	
4. Errol Thomas	10	M	
5. Judith James	16	F	} Tumprina Rd, Cumuto Trinidad, West Indies (All have same address)
6. Carol James	12	F	
7. Aldwgn James	14	M	
8. Roland James	11	M	
9. Patsy Murry	21	F	
10. Merlyn Charles	16	F	
11. Terry Charles	12	M	} 22 Poui Street, Morant Trinidad Cumuto Main Rd. Trinidad (All have same address)
12. Lucille Taylor	24	F	
13. Monica Lyons	13	F	
14. Sylvia Lyons	12	F	

I remain
Yours in Christ,
Brother Walter Taylor

Dear Readers,

If you would like to correspond with any of the young people in Trinidad, please let me know.

If you do not get one of these names to write to, please indicate in your letter if you would want me to hold your name for future foreign Pen Pals that will be coming in.

Foreign Youth Correspondent,
Phyllis Hayford

Vivian Hall

2T₄G

Take Time for God



In our chapters for this month, we read of a King Who was born of humble beginnings, but Who will one day take His place in the Kingdom to reign supreme.

To get ahead in this world of today and receive world acclaim seems to be the goal set up by many people. All the education it is possible to obtain is sought by a great number. Tests are given and taken to select the one most fitted to hold a higher position. When a very highly desired position is obtained, even more brain-racking tests are given to thin out "undesirables" or to make sure the one holding the position is still capable. So the struggle for fame and fortune continues.

Wouldn't you consider it a great honor if you were chosen to king's court? Think of all the riches and grandeur that would be yours. Think of the high esteem with which your neighbors, family, and friends would regard you. Wouldn't it be worth a struggle if you knew for sure such a position would be yours? Well, it can be yours. I am quite serious. We, as Christians, are looking for a soon-coming Kingdom on earth where Christ will reign as Supreme King, are we not? It will be a kingdom never before surpassed in riches and grandeur. No kingdom today can ever be-

gin in a small measure to boast the magnificence we can behold at that time.

The best part of it all is, we need not get a formal education to prepare us to hold a position in that Kingdom. Even the poorest (financially) and uneducated may become a subject in that Kingdom, just so long as that person accepts the King as his Ruler. Will we have tests to thin out the "unfit" and undesirable? Oh, yes. Temptations will beset us on every side, and those who are weak and undesirable as members of the Kingdom will fall out. Those who are strong enough to withstand temptation and trials will be even stronger in the service of the King, as a result of having gone through these tests. Yes, we will be tested more often and more severely as the time to enter the Kingdom draws nearer. But isn't it worthwhile to take a few tests and thus grow stronger in the service of our Master? Think of the reward at the end. It is a reward well worth losing all worldly gain in order to obtain.

What can we do? Serve God to our utmost knowledge. Do all we can to spread the Gospel to others. Live a life that is a fit example for others to follow. Preach, give out literature, visit the sick, church members, and those interested, write articles or poems. Whatever your talent, use it to God's glory. Don't hide your knowledge of Him. And remember, PRAYER enables us to do His will at all times. Don't neglect this very important step that will lead us to our goal—a place in His Royal Service—a home in His Kingdom.

o _____ o

We encourage you to start on this daily Bible reading program now, if you have not already done so. 2T4G folders, to help you keep record of your daily reading, are available through Elder Dale Lawson, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

Date	Chapter
May 15	Dan. 11
May 16	Dan. 12
May 17	Matt. 1
May 18	Matt. 2
May 19	Matt. 3
May 20	Matt. 4
May 21	Matt. 5
May 22	Matt. 6
May 23	Matt. 7
May 24	Matt. 8
May 25	Matt. 9
May 26	Matt. 10
May 27	Matt. 11
May 28	Matt. 12
May 29	Matt. 13
May 30	Matt. 14
May 31	Matt. 15
June 1	Matt. 16
June 2	Matt. 17
June 3	Matt. 18
June 4	Matt. 19
June 5	Matt. 20
June 6	Matt. 21
June 7	Matt. 22
June 8	Matt. 23
June 9	Matt. 24
June 10	Matt. 25
June 11	Matt. 26
June 12	Matt. 27
June 13	Matt. 28
June 14	Mark 1

He Hath Made Everything Beautiful

By Verna McCoy

Our gem for this month really requires neither a great deal of searching nor a detailed map of instruction unless you might be going down a densely wooded nature trail; because our Creator has covered the landscape with a beautiful array of spring beauties.

"God made the flowers to beautify
The earth, and cheer man's careful mood:
And he is happiest who hath power
To gather wisdom from a flower,
And wake his heart in every hour
To pleasant gratitude."

—Wordsworth

If not a naturalist at heart may we now be keenly awakened to the beauty that is all about us.

Open your eyes and appreciate the brilliant yellow of the daffodils and forsythia, the pink of the blooming peach trees, the red, red tulips, the perfume of hyacinths, and the shower of blossoms as you sit 'neath the shade of the old apple tree.

Although the petals fall, there is a beautiful plan in all that God does. The flower is a structure designed to bring about the development of seeds and fruit and thus food for mankind.

To the gardner, a well-kept garden is a beautiful sight. To reap and eat the fruit of his labor is most rewarding.

As you travel through the countryside notice the form and symmetry of the lovely dogwood trees in bloom and the contrast they make with the redbud.

M I N U T E P R O G R A M A N

1 Chronicles 16:29

Psalms 19:1

Psalms 27:4

Psalms 50:2

Psalms 90:17

Song of Solomon 2:12

Isaiah 40:8

Isaiah 61:11

Climb a moss-covered hill and find the sheltered trailing arbutus with its delicate pink flower and oh-so-sweet fragrance.

As you stroll along keep your ears in tune for the melody of birds singing and building nests in branches overhead.

Note the beauty and carefreeness of butterflies on the wing. Cast all your cares upon the same Heavenly Father who made you as well as them.

By a babbling brook watch for life from aquatic actors. You might even see a would-be frog in its tadpole stage or a crawdaddy hiding under the edge of a rock.

As you continue your walk in the forest cathedral, meditate upon your need to be walking in His steps and in perfect harmony with His will.

I'm sure you cannot return from nature's sanctuary with-

out being greatly inspired and knowing for certain that there is a God and that He is alive.

Humbly thank God for giving you the senses to fully appreciate the beauties of His handiwork and pray that the beauty of Jesus might be seen in you.

MY FATHER'S BUSINESS

(Continued from page 26)

ing, dying—without Christ Jesus. You have a helping hand, you have Christ to offer them. Do you have a willing heart, believing that it is more blessed to give than to receive? Will you accept the challenge?

HELP SOMEBODY TODAY,
SOMEONE ALONG LIFE'S WAY:
LET SORROW BE ENDED—THE

FRIENDLESS BEFRIENDED!
OH! HELP SOMEBODY TODAY.

—Calvin A. Burrell

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—Submitted by Ontario, Calif., FYCer

The Acts of the Apostles

in Paraphrase



(Continued)

By Nathan Straub

TO CORINTH 18:1

After those events, Paul left Athens and came to Corinth. There he found a certain Jew named Aquila (a native of Pontus), who with his wife Priscilla, had just recently come from Italy (because Claudius had ordered that all Jews must leave Rome). Paul went to them.

Because Paul was a craftsman in the same trade (they were tentmakers) as Priscilla and Aquila, he stayed and worked with them.

Paul reasoned every Sabbath in the synagogue and convinced Jews and Greeks.

When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was encouraged in the spirit and witnessed to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ.

When the listeners opposed each other and were blasphemous, Paul shook his clothing and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads; I am clean. From now on, I will go to the Gentiles."

Paul left that particular place and went into the home of a man named, Justus. His house was built onto a wall of the synagogue and he was one that worshiped God.

Crispus, the chief officer of the synagogue, and his whole household believed on the Lord. Many of the Corinthians listened and believed and were baptized.

The Lord spoke to Paul in a vision during the night, "Do not be afraid; speak, do not maintain silence, because I am with you. No man will attack you and hurt you. I have many people in this city." Paul stayed in Corinth for a year and six months, teaching the Word of God among the people.

When Gallio was the deputy of Achaia, the Jews rose up against Paul, as one man, and brought him to the place of judgment. They charged, "This man persuades men to worship God in a way that is contrary to the law."

When Paul was just ready to speak, Gallio said to the Jews, "If this were a matter of wrongs or wicked indecency, then you Jews could know that I would hear you. But, if this is a matter of words or names or of your law, then you must decide for yourselves. I will not be the judge of such matters." Then he drove the group from the place of judgment.

Then all the Greeks took Sosthenes, the chief officer of the synagogue, and beat him in front of the place of judgment. Gallio was indifferent.

BACK TO SYRIA 18:18

Paul stayed a good while in Corinth. After saying goodby to the brethren, he began to sail to Syria. He took Priscilla and Aquila with him. Because of a vow, Paul shaved his head at Cenchrea.

AT EPHESUS 18:19

Paul landed at Ephesus. He left his companions and went into the synagogue by himself. There he reasoned with the Jews. They wanted him to stay with them for a while, but he would not. He said goodby to them, saying, "By all means, I must go to this feast that is coming in Jerusalem. If God wills, I will come back to you again." Then he sailed away from Ephesus.

A CIRCUIT 18:22

When he had landed at Caesarea, he went and greeted the local group. Then he went to Antioch. After he had spent some time there, he left and went throughout the areas of Galatia and Phrygia, using a pattern of work, encouraging all the disciples.

There was a certain Jew named Apollos, who was a native of Alexandria. He was eloquent and very powerful in the scriptures. He came to Ephesus. This man was learned in the way of the Lord, and was powerful in the spirit. He spoke and taught the things of the Lord tirelessly, but he only knew of the baptism of John. He began to speak boldly in the Synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila had heard him, they took him into their confidence and explained to him the way of God more completely.

When Apollos decided to go over to Achaia, the brethren wrote a letter advising those at Achaia to accept him. When Apollos arrived he was a great help to those who, through grace, had believed. Publicly and with great convincing power, he persuaded the Jews by the scriptures, that Jesus was the Christ.

CHAPTER 19

AT EPHESUS 19:1

While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul came to Ephesus after having made a tour through the upper coasts. At Ephesus, Paul found certain disciples and asked them, "Have you received the Holy Spirit since the time when you began to believe?"

They answered, "We have not even heard that there was such a thing as the Holy Spirit."

Paul continued to ask, "By what baptism were you baptized?"

They answered, "John's baptism."

Paul said, "John truly baptized with the baptism of repentance but John told the people that they should believe on the one who would come after him. This is, one Christ Jesus."

When the disciples heard that, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came to them.

They spoke in tongues and prophesied. In all, there were twelve men in the group.

For a period of three months, Paul went into the synagogue and talked fearlessly. He gave arguments and tried to persuade his listeners about matters concerning the kingdom of God.

When some refused to believe and became hardened, they talked wrongly to the group about the Christian way. So Paul left them and took the disciples with him.

Every day Paul taught in a school operated by one Tyrannus. He continued to teach there for a period of two years. By this method everyone living in Asia, who wanted to (both Jews and Greeks), heard the word of the Lord Jesus.

God gave Paul the power to perform special miracles. Handkerchiefs or aprons were taken from Paul to the sick, and their diseases left them and their evil spirits left them.

Then certain traveling Jews, who were exorcists, took upon themselves to speak the name of Jesus over the ones who had evil spirits. They said, "We order you by the name of Jesus, whom Paul preaches. . . ."

These were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew and a chief of the priests. These sons did that. The evil spirit said, "I know Jesus and I know Paul, but who are you?"

The one who had the evil spirit attacked them, overpowered them and did with them as he pleased. When he was finished they escaped from the house, naked and beaten.

This became common knowledge with all the Jews and Greeks at Ephesus. They were overcome with fear and they honored the name of the Lord Jesus. Many who believed came and admitted their beliefs and proved them by their actions.

Many of the people who practiced strange crafts gathered their books and burned them before everyone. They counted the value of the books and found it to be fifty thousand dollars. This burning was done because the word of God became known greatly and was the leading influence.

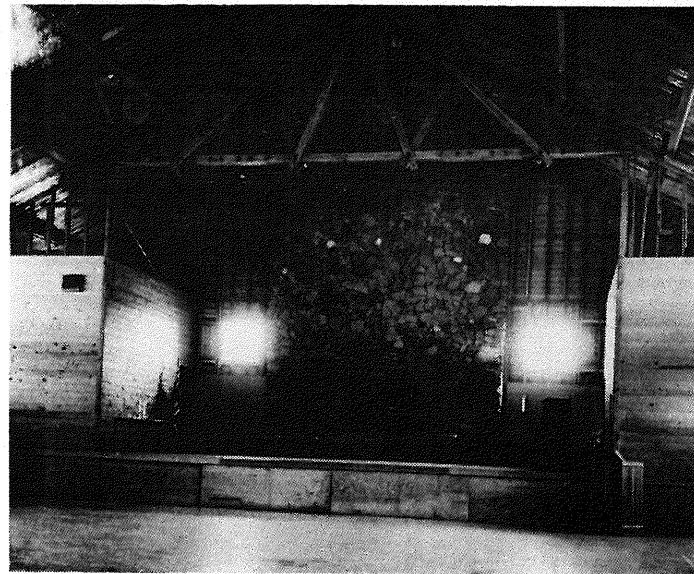
After these things were finished and when Paul had gone through Macedonia and Achaia; he decided in his spirit to go to Jerusalem. He said, "After I have been there, I must also go to Rome."

(Continued next month)

IF THAT BOY WERE YOUR BOY

A distinguished man made a speech in opening a boys' club in which he said, "It will have been worth opening this club, and worth all the expense and work entailed in carrying it on, if only *one* boy is saved

through its work!" Afterward a friend took him to task, saying, "Don't you think it was an exaggeration to say it was worth having the club if only *one* boy was saved through its work?" "Not if that boy were *my* boy," was the reply.



This picture shows the stage and huge fireplace inside the Youth building at Pine Crest Camp. This will be the scene of devotionals, evangelistic meetings, Bible studies, and business meetings for young people, come July 21.

This building is actually a gym—so your guess that it will also be used for indoor recreation is correct.

There will also be worship out-of-doors—by an evening fire-side. So young people can look forward to worshipping God in the finest fashion—under the stars of night, at the foothills of the Rockies.

Outdoor recreation is also being planned.

You can be a part of all this activity, if you will attend . . .

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