

Aim

The magazine for young people

Prepare NOW for Youth Camp

MICHIGAN YOUTH CAMP—June 23-30

Mill Lake Outdoor Center, Chelsea, Michigan

Write to: Floyd A. Turner, 3466 Bennington Rd., Owosso, Michigan 48867

o ——— o

CENTRAL STATES YOUTH CAMP—June 16-23

Camp Pa He Tsi, Lake of the Ozarks State Park
Osage Beach, Missouri

Write to: Robert Coulter, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, Colorado 80201

o ——— o

OREGON YOUTH CAMP—June 17-23

North Falls Youth Camp
Silver Creek Falls State Park, Silverton, Oregon

Write to: Will McGill, Route 1, Box 340, Jefferson City, Oregon 97355

o ——— o

MINNESOTA YOUTH CAMP—June 23-30

Long Prairie, Minnesota

Write to:

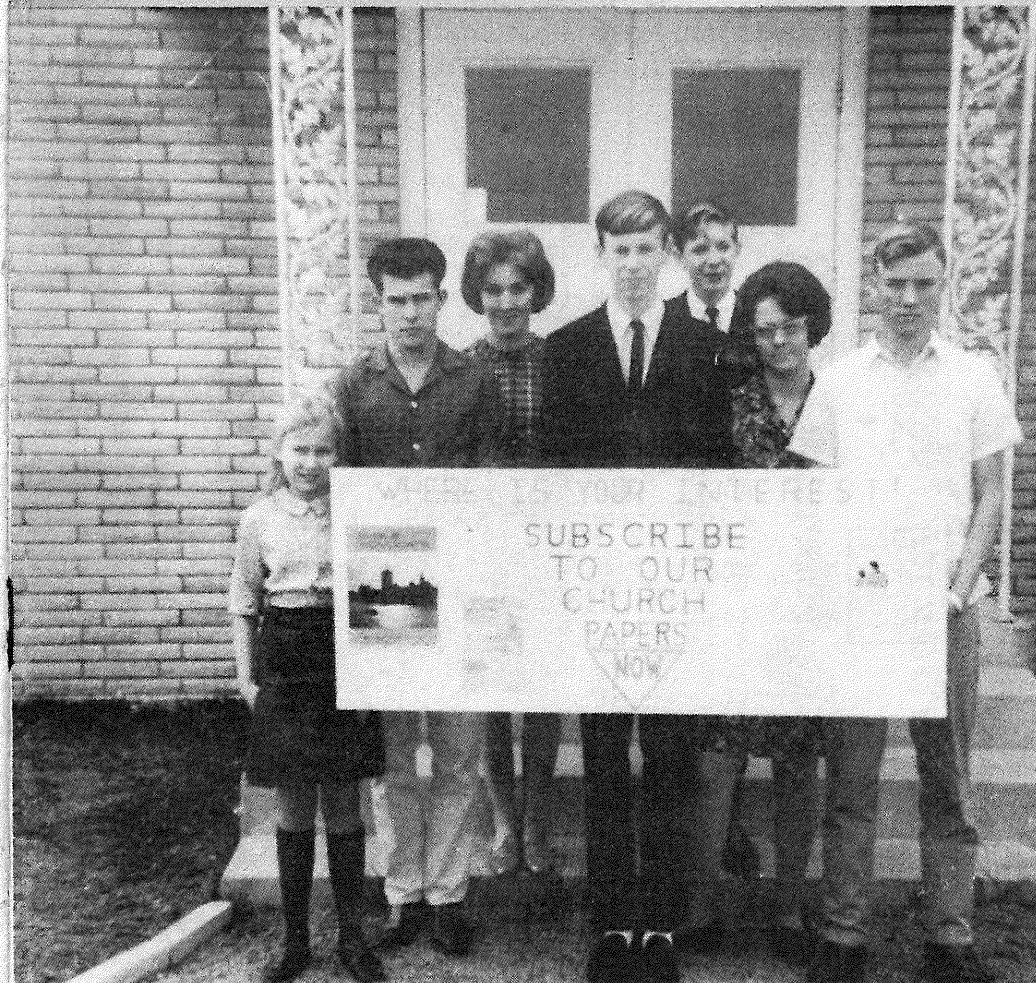
Evelyn Casselman, 3704 Midland Ave., White Bear Lake, Minn. 55110

o ——— o

CALIFORNIA YOUTH CAMP—August 18-26

Pacific Pines Camp, Crestline, California

Write to: Victor A. Youngs, 2107 S. Palmetto, Ontario, California 91762



A group of San Antonio FYCers display the poster they used in promoting the church magazines. They asked the question, "Where is Your Interest?" (See Spotlight Report on page 18.)

Aim The magazine for young people

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

It is published monthly by the Church of God Publishing House at Second and Willow Streets in Stanberry, Missouri 64489. Second-class postage is paid at Stanberry, Missouri.

Contributions of material for publication are greatly appreciated. No responsibility is assumed for the care of manuscript, however, and only manuscript which is accompanied by return postage will be returned. Material which is original with this publication may be reprinted to the Glory of God. Please give proper credit.

Subscription rates: \$3.00 per year in the United States and Canada. Foreign, \$3.50. Clubs of 6 or more to one address, U. S. and Canada only, \$2.25 each.

A change of address must be allowed two weeks for processing. Please send both old and new addresses.

Address all mail to: AIM, P. O. Box 158, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

Vol. XXXII, No. 5

Hope E. Dais, Editor

A mother's love is indeed the golden link that binds youth to age; and he is still a child, however time may have furrowed his cheek, or silvered his brow, who can yet recall, with a softened heart, the fond devotion, or the gentle chidings, of the best friend that God ever gives us.—BOVEE

Contents of This Issue

Graduation Suit <i>Morton Green</i>	page 3
Youth—You Can Live <i>Nathan Lawson</i>	page 8
Tell Me, Please <i>Ray L. Straub</i>	page 10
... Truth Shall Make You Free <i>Charlene Tuller</i>	page 12
The Greatest <i>J. Michael Weir</i>	page 15
Looking For a Fence <i>Shirley Christianson</i>	page 16
Spotlight on San Antonio FYC ..	page 18
Prejudice or Brotherhood <i>Barbara Lucas</i>	page 20
Happy Home Building ... Time for Family <i>Virginia Heavilin</i>	page 22
A Modern Day Parable	page 25
Make a Mark of Merit <i>Nathan Lawson</i>	page 26
2T4G—Take Time for God <i>Kathleen Roche</i>	page 28
Minuteman—"The Time is at Hand ..." <i>Carol Millican</i>	page 30
School Notes—MBC—SVA <i>Ken Brunson—Dixie Walton</i> ..	page 32

BRADEN ACRES
GRADE SCHOOL

GRADUATION SUIT



By Morton Green

The ninth grade graduating class of Monroe Junior High was assembled in the school cafeteria to hear commencement week announcements. A hum of interest began as Principal Overton neared the point where he would be naming the student of outstanding scholastic achievement, leadership, and character, chosen as graduation speaker.

As Mr. Overton led up to the big moment with a speech about the closeness of the race, the difficulty of choosing the most outstanding student, and so on, Joe Kessler involuntarily clenched his fists in his lap. *What are you gettin' so all shook-up for, Kessler?* Joe demanded of himself. *Just because you have nearly straight A's doesn't mean it's going to be you.* Still, Joe could time the principal's speech by his own heartbeats.

Peggy Mason, seated at the cafeteria table beside him, squeezed Joe's arm. "Good luck, Joe," she whispered.

Gosh, if only he could be the graduation speaker so Peggy would look at him as she was now, as if he were

really important! But then Joe glanced at Walter Leonard, seated at the adjacent table with a bunch of his cronies. Walter was grinning confidently, as if he had already been named the outstanding graduating student. Joe's hopes took a nose dive.

It's going to be Walter, Joe thought. I know it. He has the grades—and his dad is president of the bank. The teachers wouldn't dare choose anyone else, even if Walter isn't so hot when it comes to—

"Congratulations, Joe!" Peggy was smiling radiantly, and some of the fellows were slapping him on the back.

"Huh?" Joe said, startled, then realized Mr. Overton had said his name while he was off in his own thoughts.

"You're it, Joe," Peggy laughed. "You're our graduation speaker. Wake up!"

Suddenly shy, Joe got up to acknowledge with an awkward nod the applause that rang around the room. A warm glow suffused his veins as he took his seat again.

Right now he had the courage to do something he had been wanting to do for weeks. If he let this moment pass, he probably would lose courage again. Joe turned to Peggy and stammered, "Peggy—Peggy, would you go with me to the class party after graduation?"

Peggy flashed him a beautiful smile as she answered, "Yes, Joe. I'd love to."

"You mean it?"

"Of course," Peggy reassured him sweetly.

"Hey, what's the deal, Peggy?" Walter Leonard leaned across from his table. His bright blue eyes were fixed hard on the girl seated beside Joe. "When I asked you to the graduation party last week, you said you already had a date!"

Peggy shook her brown pony tail. "I said I was *going* to have a date, Walter." Her pixie eyes darted to Joe's face. "I was expecting a certain someone to ask me."

Walter glowered at Peggy. "So that's how it is." His eyes gave Joe a cold 'once-over.' "Well, it's always the ones who play up to the teachers who get chosen for things."

Joe felt a hot rebuttal form in his throat, but Peggy spoke up first. "Don't be a poor sport, Walter."

"Why not? My grades are just as good as Kessler's."

Peggy's words hung like icicles in the air. "Grades are not all that count, Walter Leonard. You have brains, sure; but you're always trying to show up the teachers in an embarrassing way before the class, or bragging about your high marks to the other kids. At least Joe's a gentleman, not a 'know-it-all!'"

"Yeah, Gentleman Joe," Walter sneered, turning back to his friends.

Mr. Overton was rapping for order again. "One more thing, folks, before I dismiss you to sixth period. Dress for graduation will be dark suits and ties for the boys and dark skirts and white blouses for the girls. Please wear the same thing for the class picture Friday."

A dark suit! He hadn't thought of that. A cold lump formed in Joe's stomach as he edged through the crowd toward his sixth period classroom. He didn't even own a suit, dark or otherwise! He shook his head worriedly. Would Mom be able to squeeze money for a graduation suit out of an already tight family budget?

Joe had three brothers, all younger than himself, and Mrs. Kessler was a widow. His mom worked the swing shift in the local cannery. Joe gave her most of his earnings from his morning paper route, but still the Kessler family only managed to scrape by. There was very little left over for unexpected extras—like a new graduation suit.

Joe had managed to save up thirty dollars that he had spent last week for his mom's birthday present. Reddick's Department Store had held a clearance sale on winter coats. His mom's winter coat was pretty worn, and there was one coat at Reddick's that was just a dream—a terrific bargain at the low sale price. So Joe bought it for mom, though she protested he should keep the money for himself.

Now Joe half-wished he *had* kept the thirty dollars, or managed to save more, because he just had to have a dark suit if he was to speak at the graduation exercises!

Despite his uncertainty about the graduation suit, Joe burst into the Kessler's small, shabby apartment with an excited whoop that day after school. "Land sakes, Joe," exclaimed his mother, coming into the living room from the kitchen where she was preparing dinner before leaving for work, "you sound like an Indian on the warpath."

"Guess what?" Joe quizzed, whirling her around. "I was chosen to speak at graduation next week!"

"Oh, Joey!" Mom cried. "To think you are going to speak before all those people! I'm so proud of you, Joe." With the edge of her frayed apron, Mom brushed the happy tears from her eyes.

"Only one thing, Mom, I'll need a suit. All the fellows are wearing dark suits for graduation."

"A suit?" The lines deepened in Mrs. Kessler's face. "A suit costs quite a lot, doesn't it, Joe?" she asked quietly.

"We can manage it, can't we?" Joe's voice was an anxious whisper.

Mrs. Kessler twisted her hands. "I don't know how, Joe. I just don't know how. Al's tonsillectomy last month took every last cent I had in the sugar jar." She bit her lips, and glanced futilely around the tiny room as if hoping the needed money might blow in the window.

"But, Mom, I can't stand up in the auditorium and give my speech in my school clothes. I can't even go to graduation in my school clothes!"

"I'm thinking, Joe. I'm thinking." Suddenly, a ray of sunshine broke through the gloom on Mom's face. She opened a crowded closet and from the back pulled out a box. "I always felt it was foolish to save these things,

but now I'm glad I did."

She opened the dusty box. Inside, a blue suit was folded in moth balls. "I kept this suit of your dad's, Joe. He was bigger than you, but maybe I can take it in a little here and there. Try it on."

Even as he changed his clothes in the bedroom, Joe knew this blue suit of his dad's would be almost worse than no suit at all. Mom's frown when he came back into the living room confirmed his own suspicions. The blue was an uncomplimentary shade, and the material was shiny with wear. The way the trousers bagged made Joe feel like a circus clown. If he had to wear this suit, he would tell Principal Overton he couldn't be the graduation speaker. "It smells of moth balls, Mom," Joe said.

"A few days' airing will take care of that," Mom replied absently. She studied the possibilities of the suit. "If only you hadn't spent your savings on that coat for my birthday—"

Mrs. Kessler's words were too close for comfort to Joe's earlier thoughts of that afternoon. He felt ashamed, recalling how his mom had walked home from work on chilly winter nights in her thin, cloth coat. "If I could take it back—" Mom began wistfully.

Joe broke in fiercely, "Now don't talk like that, Mom. You need a new coat. Besides, the coat was on sale and not returnable."

"You're right," she said sadly. She touched his cheek with a quick pat of affection. "You're a good boy, Joe."

If the blue suit looked bad against the threadbare background of the Kessler's living room, it looked twice as hand-me-downish alongside the new spruce outfits of the other fellows

when the graduating students posed for their class picture on Friday. Joe was painfully aware of this. He just couldn't disgrace his class by giving the graduation address in this suit.

"Phew! Who's been bathing in moth balls?" one fellow asked, laughing as the camera finished swinging the length of the stiffly-posed class and the students dispersed.

"That's Joe Kessler's rummage sale special," Walter quipped in reply. He walked up to Joe and smirked teasingly. "Or did you find that bomb in somebody's trash can, Kessler?"

Joe turned and walked away, too heartsick to get angry and haul off and belt Walter one. He kept walking until he came to the bleachers at the edge of the deserted athletic field. He sagged down on a bleacher bench.

"Joe, don't feel bad. Don't pay any attention to what Walter says."

Joe looked up, surprised. "Peggy?"

"I followed you, Joe," Peggy said, a bit breathlessly. "You walked so fast, I couldn't catch up."

"You heard what Walter and those guys said?"

"Yes. But don't listen to them. I—I think your suit looks fine, Joe."

"Don't lie, Peggy."

She sat down beside him. "I'm not. You could wear a gunny sack and look great, Joe. You're a very nice-looking boy."

Joe rubbed his palm across his forehead. "Well, it doesn't matter. I've decided what to do. I'm going to tell Mr. Overton I can't speak at graduation."

"Because of your suit?"

"Yes."

"But, Joe, clothes don't make the man; character does. You deserve this honor. You've worked hard for it."

"I don't want people laughing at our class because the graduation speaker is wearing a suit that looks like—a rummage sale special."

Peggy's eyes widened. "Joe, are you deceiving yourself? Are you worried about the class, or are you just too proud to appear in a suit that isn't as nice as the other boys' suits?"

Joe stared at Peggy. "What do you mean?"

Peggy got up. "If *you* don't know, you'd better think about it." She put her hand on his shoulder. "Please, Joe, don't make any decision until tomorrow at least. Promise?"

"All right."

Joe was still in a fuzzy state of mind when he returned home from school that day. Peggy's words had stirred him up and now he could see his situation from a fresh, rather unpleasant angle.

Joe pulled open the living-room closet door to hang up his jacket. He let out a low whistle. His unbelieving fingers touched the soft wool of the charcoal-gray suit hanging in the closet. It was perfect. But he couldn't wear it.

Joe noticed right away that Mom's birthday coat was missing. That meant she had somehow made the department store take it back in exchange for the suit. Joe couldn't let her do that. He wouldn't feel right in a suit that was bought at the expense of his mom being warm this winter.

Mrs. Kessler had come up beside him. "Joe, I know what you are going to say, but I want to tell you something first—"

"Mom, I'm not going to keep that suit! You return it, and get your coat!" Joe flopped down on the couch,

disgusted. "Did you have to get down on your knees and beg them to take back the coat? It was on sale and not returnable."

"Joe, will you let me say something?" his mom pleaded, exasperated. "No, I didn't have to 'beg' as you say. They were reluctant, but when they checked, they discovered that coat should not have been among the coats on sale after all."

"Are you making this up for my benefit, Mom?"

"Joe! It's the truth. Your dad's old suit didn't look good on you, Joe, and I was determined you should look right when you speak at the graduation."

Joe hung his head. "I still say you shouldn't have done it, Mom. I won't feel comfortable wearing that suit, knowing you're going without a warm coat."

"I'm getting something more important in return, Joe. Seeing you well-

dressed for graduation will give me more pleasure than a new coat. We can get a coat later, but you have to have the suit now, and it's more important to me that you have it. Do you believe me, Joe?"

It was funny because he did believe her in a way. Not because of her words, but because of the look on his mom's face.

"It's such a sacrifice, Mom."

"Don't be too proud to accept a sacrifice gracefully, son."

Pride. Peggy had spoken about pride. "Or are you just too proud to appear in a suit that isn't as nice as the other boys' suits?" Joe realized now maybe he had been and he felt grateful for Peggy's insight.

Joe hugged his mother close. "I believe you, Mom. I'll be proud to wear that charcoal-gray suit when I give my speech." And this time, it will be the right kind of pride, Joe amended silently to himself.

PRAYER

I asked for bread; God gave a stone instead.

Yet, while I pillowed there my weary head,

The angels made a ladder of my dreams,

Which upward to celestial mountains led.

And when I woke beneath the morning's beam,

Around my resting place fresh manna lay;

And, praising God I went upon my way,

For I was fed.

God answers prayer sometimes, when hearts are weak,

He gives the very gifts believers seek

But often faith must learn a deeper rest,

And trust God's silence when He does not speak;

For He whose name is Love, will send the best.

Stars may burn out, nor mountain walls endure,

But God is true, His promises are sure

For those who seek.

—Author Unknown

YOUTH--

YOU CAN LIVE

by Nathan Lawson

Recently, I stood beside a hospital bed, looking down at a man. His eyes were closed. I noticed the hollow of his cheeks. I could see that his body was only skin and bones. His son had said, "Only 89 pounds." Cancer was eating away at his body—his very life. His eyelids blinked, then he was wide awake. Immediately, he recognized me as the minister. Almost there were tears. His voice was only a whisper, "I DON'T WANT TO DIE."

In the ash tray nearby was a still-smoking cigarette—. "I DON'T WANT TO DIE. I ENJOY LIFE."

YOUTH—YOU CAN LIVE

As I drove home that day, these words kept ringing in my mind, "I DON'T WANT TO DIE—I don't want to die—I don't want—."

I began to think about a scene pictured to us in the pages of the Bible in Luke 13:23-30. One of the disciples asked, "Lord, are there few that be saved?" Jesus answered, "Strive to enter in."

He goes on to say, "... Someday the door is going to be closed. There are going to be people without, knocking, saying, 'Lord, Lord, open to us.'"

But Christ will say, "Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity." There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. They will see Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and

all the Saints enter the Kingdom of God and they will be on the outside to—die Eternally.

Perhaps they will be crying out, "I DON'T WANT TO DIE, I DON'T WANT TO DIE."

WHY MUST THEY DIE— THEY COULD HAVE ENTERED

Day after day, I see children, youth, and parents unconcerned about Christ Jesus and "really living." Ten-year-olds—walking down the main street, swinging a cigarette proudly in their hand. Teenagers—unashamedly committing immoral sexual acts. They are "living it up" on cigarettes, wine, dope, and sex. Parents—just too busy to care—parents involved in unrighteous sinful acts of their own.

Sin—sin—sin—eating away at their lives—destroying their hope. Satan has plagued them

with cancer—not physical, but spiritual. It is completely destroying their hope of Eternity.

Why must they die? Rev. 21:27 declares about this Kingdom, "And there shall in no wise enter into it anything that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life."

YOUTH TODAY ARE LIVING IT UP

"Tomorrow will take care of itself." Most teenagers live for the kicks and thrills they can get today. They are pleasure-mad. Recently, one said, "You had your fun; now let me have mine." Away they went to Reno to gamble and drink. Young people are enjoying the pleasures of sin—with no thought for tomorrow.

GO AHEAD, YOUTH!

Wise old Solomon knew the result!!!

"Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine

eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment" (Eccl. 11:9).

Go ahead, youth—Forget God—Follow the crowd. Just remember, **JUDGMENT IS COMING--YOU WILL BE CAUGHT!**

YOU CAN BE INSIDE, TOO . . .

Eternal death is something you do not have to suffer. You make the choice now. The pleasures of sin now will leave you outside the Kingdom of God with all the wicked. This is God's great warning against "living it up."

The key to entrance is simple—**ACCEPT CHRIST AND HIS TRUTH.** Forsake the pleasures of sin. There is joy and peace in serving Jesus Christ. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12).

LIVING FOR JESUS IS NOT DULL

Your life for Christ will be as enjoyable as you make it. There is no greater joy than

(Continued on page 11)

Tell Me, Please

QUESTION:

The year 1968 has created a new problem for me in that it is leap year. Our school had a dance to which the girls asked the boys. While I am hardly a Romeo, I get along with girls, some of whom asked me to this dance, and I had to turn them down in a nice way. Now these girls are not very friendly.

Several of the guys have asked me why I don't go to dances, and they encourage me to go. I would like to know what the church believes on this, and what the Bible has to say about dancing. I would also like to know why the ministers and the Church are so silent on this subject. Incidentally, I can't afford to attend a church school.

ANSWER:

I would guess that there are plenty of fellows around who would really like to have your problem! You are advantaged to be as well liked as you obviously are. This is easily detected from the statements in your question.

No doubt you can understand why the girls are less friendly. It is probably not because they like you less, but rather because you having to

Youth Questions

answered by

Ray L. Straub



turn them down embarrassed them. It is hard enough for a boy to be refused a date. For a girl it is nearly crushing, unless she happens to be so straightforward that she is used to tolerating refusals.

Should this situation come up again, why not offer an alternative date? In letting a girl know that you cannot attend a dance, there is no reason why you cannot suggest that you do something together that would not go against your religion.

The reason the Church opposes dancing is because it invites too much familiarity between the sexes. This is particularly true of the contact type of dancing. There is little value in two physically but not emotionally matured young people scootching along a floor to music with their cheeks and bodies pressed against each other. There is a considerable danger in it.

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

The dances that are non-contact are usually spooky and kooky! I see people at zoos around monkey cages, laughing at these animals for going through gyrations and contortions that make more sense than what one sees on a lot of dance floors. Since you have been brought up to know better, I would seriously doubt that you would enjoy an evening spinning on your joints and stretching your ligaments.

The Bible has no passage in it that tells us not to dance. Neither has it any references telling us not to drive recklessly, or even to refrain from taking dope. However, there are many verses that call for us to adopt a discipline that will keep us far from these dangerous and senseless actions. The many verses teaching us to be

clean, kind, gentle and Christlike will cause us to avoid participating in actions that appear to be barren of intellect.

I suppose that whichever ministers are quiet on this subject, fail to speak out because they see no apparent need to do so. They may consider that their young people are not tempted to dance. I am sure that any young person wanting information on this subject would find abundant and willing help from his pastor. Perhaps we are not aware of the scope of this problem. Being made aware, you would undoubtedly hear more on the subject.

I wouldn't worry about losing many friends on this matter. Just because they do not understand you does not mean they will cease to like you.

"YOUTH" YOU CAN LIVE

(Continued from page 9)

serving Him sincerely. True Christianity is enjoyable. IT OFFERS YOU THRILLS—the thrill of living for God, of having security and hope. The world is full of good, wholesome activities. You do not have to look to the "gutter of sin" to have a real thrill in life.

Build your life for the future. The thrills of this world do not compare with what our "hope" offers us. God promises us that some day we can walk by the rivers of the water of life, stand beside the throne of God; talk with Him face to face; and have immortal bodies that will not

suffer pain and death.

How about a trip to the Holy City? It will lie "four square"—built of all manner of PRECIOUS STONES—STREETS OF GOLD!!! You can be there—walk there—live there... THRILLING!!!

"...Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit" (1 Cor. 2:9, 10).

YOUTH—YOU CAN LIVE

This is the good news, sent from God. Build your life upon Jesus Christ. Live today for what God promises tomorrow.

This is the second in a sequence of articles, sharing with you, from time to time, the personal experiences of one who has been led into the precious truths held by the Church of God (7th Day). (The first article appeared in the January issue.)

**“ . . . Truth
Shall
Make
You
Free ”**

By Charlene Tuller

Since I was not raised in the Church of God (7th Day), I feel very fortunate that I was led into the church so young.

For several years, I had attended a small, Sundaykeeping church quite faithfully in my small hometown; I loved it and its members. Then a family of Sabbathkeepers from Missouri moved into our little town. When I first learned they kept the seventh-day Sabbath I asked my mother what that meant and she said, “They keep Saturday instead of Sunday.” I was just *shocked* as I had never before heard of anyone going to church on any day except Sunday.

“Why would they ever do that?” I asked. My mother answered something to the effect that this was their belief—that this was the day that they kept instead of Sunday. Little did I realize at that time that this would be the day that I would observe in

the not-too-distant future.

It was in the summer after my sophomore year of high school, when I was nearly 16 years of age, that I first met the daughter of this new family at our nightly community ball games. My older sister and I became better acquainted with this young lady during these practice sessions and other activities. Our new friend and her older sister asked my sister and I if we would like to try to get on part-time at the bakery where they worked in a larger town about ten miles away. They would drive us back and forth. This was a five-day-week job, with Saturday off.

We didn’t want to take the job very badly at first when we realized we’d be working on Sunday. We really wanted to go to church on that day as we had always done. However, our odd jobs on Saturdays and other days didn’t pay much, so, in need of the money, we started working at the bakery. I worked there that summer, and through the school year—on Sundays and after school.

AT FIRST I FELT GUILTY for not keeping Sunday, and my pastor made me feel even more guilty; but my friend talked freely of her religion and asked if I would study the Sabbath and see for myself that the things they believed were actually in the Bible. She asked if I would keep the Sabbath if I could find proof in the Bible that it was the day that should be observed.

I said that I would keep it if I could find enough proof in the Bible that it was the day that should be kept holy, as I wanted to be obedient to God. I was sincere in this. I meant it, though I really doubted that she could prove these things to me.

God must have been ready to work in my life and lead me into this truth before I was putting forth much effort on my part. I couldn’t understand at first why my friend was so intent on my learning about these new doctrines. I felt very content in the church I had been attending, and felt I was even more faithful than some adults, as I attended regularly—even on Sunday nights when many members were absent.

My friend kept inviting me over on Saturdays to discuss the Bible and we began to read the Bible from cover to cover. Of course, I felt confident at first that I would find Sunday in the Bible, as well as proof concerning many other beliefs that she was mistaken about. After reading only the first few chapters of Genesis, I was amazed to be finding out about the seventh day. The farther I read, the more I learned also about other truths that were revealed to me. Yet I wasn’t easy to convince; I wasn’t going to be thoroughly convinced until we had read through the entire Bible. This we did.

Having Saturday free from work was a great beginning for me as we did so much studying then. Before this, I could not

visualize that this day actually *could* be kept as a Sabbath, free from work, shopping, seeking entertainment, etc.

THROUGHOUT THE REMAINDER OF MY HIGH SCHOOL YEARS, we studied the Bible and some other literature. We checked out different Encyclopedias, such as Britannica and Americana, to look up information on some of the doctrines of our church. This history was very helpful and more convincing than ever to me—to discover they backed up the Bible concerning the true doctrines. Information revealed that the seventh day was the original Sabbath that was kept, and that Sunday was started much later (the law being passed in 321 A.D., compelling people to keep Sunday). So by this enforcement, tradition and custom has brought about Sunday keeping.

These encyclopedias revealed many other truths of the Bible that have been mixed up and changed by traditions and customs and have been misleading many honest-minded people for generation upon generation.

Another good source of information that I loved to read was our Bible Home Instructor which has enough information in it to convince anyone who has a truly sincere desire for the truth.

EVEN THOUGH THESE DOCTRINES WERE BECOMING PROVEN FACTS to me and I was pretty well keeping the Sabbath, yet I had many struggles within myself.

There were trials and temptations, and it was very hard to be giving up my friends. I had only met one Church of God minister and one other family of Sabbathkeepers who were relatives of this family in my town. So I was anxious to meet more of this group. I went for a trip out to some western states with my friend and her relatives, and we met more church folks. Although we were complete strangers to many of them, they took us into their homes; I was impressed by the generosity, kindness and love of God in their hearts. These were about the only church folks I knew during those two years of study.

THEN I MOVED TO A DIFFERENT STATE where there was a church that I was very pleased to attend. It was evident that these people were striving to live according to the Bible and the Bible only.

Though my conversion started in a Sunday church, I was grateful that God revealed all of His truths to me. I knew I could never enter His Kingdom without living according to them, so I began a new life dedicated to Him. This was nearly 13 years ago and I have never regretted this decision. I have found many, many new friends.

Holy Scripture is a sweet-scented herb, and the more you rub it, the more it emits its fragrance.

—Martin Luther

The Greatest

By J. Michael Weir

A doctor and teacher and child one day,
Were debating who the greatest in the world should be.

Said the doctor in a most preponderous voice:
“Why, there is no other possible choice.

“Everyone knows what the world’s shape would be
If there were no medical men like me.

“Disease would spread then and death would be sure
For all the world’s sickness there would be no cure.”

“Hold on now!” the teacher indignantly said,
“I have enough of this nonsense been fed.

“Where did this Doctor his worthy trade learn,
And to whom for his knowledge in school did he turn?

“And who, may I ask, did time with him spend,
In order that he might achieve this great end?

“Why, teachers are greatest; why are we in doubt?
To end this argument there is one way out.”

Then a small voice in the background was heard,
And everyone’s eyes to the young child were turned.

“Excuse me, kind sirs, but may I say a word?
Your boasts and claims this day have I heard.

“But have you forgotten in your haste to be best?
In the world’s greatest person you no fame do invest!

“The person to whom your life you do owe
Who sacrificed life’s luxuries so that you might grow.

“Who helped you daily when on life’s road you trod,
And spent hours praying for divine help from God.

“So, doctors and teachers and anyone else,
All of life’s victories can’t be a credit to self.

“Our mothers are greatest and deserve our acclaim,
Our love and affection, not to mention great fame.

“Let’s not our love and affection just save
And give her our love just on Mother’s Day,

“But thank God daily for mothers—for where would we be—
If we hadn’t God’s guidance from her loving knee?”

Editor's Note—The original oration printed below was presented by Shirley Christianson of Bruce, Wisconsin, and won an award for her in last year's 4-H Speaking Contest. We thank Jessie Truman for submitting the article. Shirley was one of her 4-H girls.

Looking for a Fence



Have you ever noticed the first thing cattle do when they are let out in the spring? They head for the nearest fence. They lean on it, walk along it, crawl through it, or jump over it.

Inside the fence is the green grassy pasture in which they graze, while outside the fence lies only dry, indigestible summer fallow. Why, then, do they even try to cross it? Why? Because they want to find out as quickly as possible just how far they can go. They want to find the limitations of their newfound freedom.

We, the youth of America, have the same natural urge to find our fence. We also want to know just how far we can go.

How secure it is to look across your own yard and think that from here to there is mine. How

happy is the crawling baby to find the four comforting walls of his home.

And—how confident and secure is the youth who can say, "This, this and this I can do—but that I cannot do." But—how miserable is the wild, young boy who runs away from home, the juvenile delinquent who steals, cheats and lies, the young teenage girl on her way to a home for unwed mothers. These are the confused teenagers of today who cannot find their fences.

Why can't they find their fences? Why don't they know their limitations? Because they've never had a fence and there was never any limitations set for them.

Seventeen-year-old Billy Martin's parents stood soberly as the judge was about to give Billy's sentence. They couldn't believe what was happening. Billy's mother had told the judge several times, "I don't understand it. Billy has always been such a good boy." Billy's father asked the judge where they'd gone wrong. Where had they gone wrong? Let's look back a few

years. Billy was an only child. At three, he'd had about every toy on the market. He didn't have to share these toys because they were all his. At five, Billy had the nicest tricycle in town and at ten, the best bicycle in town. He had the finest clothes, the grandest parties and all the spending money he wanted. At sixteen, Billy gave in to smoking and drinking, along with the rest of the gang.

Yes, Billy Martin had always had everything he wanted and now he wanted a car. This his parents, who were now hitting hard times, could not afford to give him. Being used to having his own way, Billy became rebellious. At this point his parents lost full control of him. He went out and stole a car, was arrested, and was now appearing in court. And why did all this take place? Because Billy wasn't restricted inside a fence, he'd always done exactly as he pleased. Is it possible for Billy's parents to repair their son's damaged life? It is possible but not very probable... You see, a fence to regulate our lives has to be set when we are still in diapers. This fence has to remain strong and sturdy throughout our lives so we can know what we can do and what we cannot do.

Fifteen-year-old Janet Carlson was supposed to be home by 11:30 on weekend nights. When she came in at 12:30 one night her parents didn't say too much, so she continued to come in later and later. Getting away with

this she tried other things which her parents let slip by. Janet had a fence, but when allowed to venture outside it she completely broke the fence. Without this feeling of security there was no limit to what she could and could not do. Sure, she thought this was pretty swell at first but by the time she was eighteen she could hardly recognize herself as the girl she'd been at fifteen. Who is at fault? Is Janet? How can she be!

Any teenager will go wrong if allowed to. If Janet's parents had enforced the rules they'd set down for her, her fence would have been in good shape and she would have grown up into a happy adult life. Did Janet want to disobey and do what was wrong? No, she really did not. Her natural urge to seek her limitations drew her to her fence and because of her parents' neglect she crossed into the unknown land beyond. Here she became lost and couldn't return. At this point we can add Janet as well as Billy to the long list of America's miserable teenagers who are desperately searching for a fence to regulate their lives.

Not only is it necessary for us to have these fences but we want them. We want to know just how far we can go and we want to do what is right. We want to belong to a family and a home. The teenagers like Billy and Janet have never known the meaning of a home in its

(Continued on page 29)

The San Antonio Church of God has an inspiring group of FYCers. Although we are handicapped by the distance between our homes, we try to promote a youth program that will inspire us, and will keep us very enthusiastic in the work of the church.

Including the FYC members of the Spanish Church of God, we have a total of 38 youth of the Church of God in this city.

We feel we have a good year ahead of us, and are planning our activities and projects for this year.

We have set our sights on a "Golden Mark of Merit," and will do our best to attain this goal. We know it takes work, but we feel we have a good start. We have a monthly youth rally, and also a monthly social and business meeting combined. We try to have at least one project monthly.

We would like to share our present project with you. We feel this is a project that every FYC might like to adopt. We were recently astonished at the number of our own members who do not take the *Bible Advocate*. Only

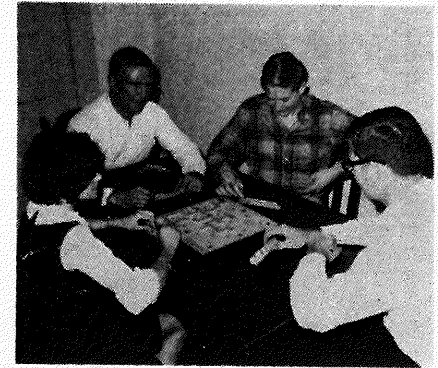


18 per cent in our area do, and this is not something to be proud of; we aim to change that! Our goal is to make sure that every family in our church here in San Antonio gets the *Bible Advocate*. We hope to also encourage all the people in the state of Texas to revive their interest in the *Advocate*. If every FYC would do this, our editor's goal would soon be reached! Our theme for this project is "WHERE IS YOUR INTEREST?" and is vividly portrayed on the banner shown in the cover picture and the above picture.

We traveled to Austin on February 24th and presented an entire program to the congregation there. Our theme was "The Incomparable Christ." Much work went into this program. It was very enjoyable to present

SPOTLIGHT

San Antonio FYC



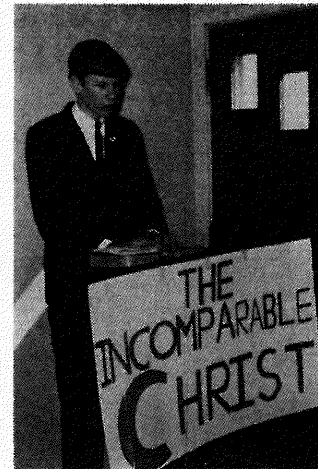
After traveling back to San Antonio, we enjoyed an evening of refreshments and games in the home of Nolan and Gail Rincker.

We have been working also, helping in obtaining material for various building projects at our church. The church purchased a building and several hundred feet of fence. The FYC helped very much in moving the material. It was hard work, but it was good to help our church progress in this way.

We traveled to Conroe and enjoyed the Youth Retreat there in December. Our national chairman, Elder Dale Lawson, helped to make the retreat a real rewarding experience.

We have 17 registered FYC members in our church. They are: David Robinson, President; Keith Minica, Assistant; Pat Baker, Secretary-Treasurer; Jim Baker, Melvin Brown, Kathy Brown, Robert Crisp, Kathy Crisp, Sheryl Parr, Gary Robinson, Nolan Rincker, Gail Rincker, Dorothy Samford, Darrell Sweet, and Leland Sweet.

Our sponsors are Hollis and Margarette Minica, and Elroy and Joyce Gold.



Christ as our incomparable Saviour. Our pastor, Elder Kenneth Lawson, spoke, using the theme of the program as the theme of his message.

Bits and Pieces

Compiled by Barbara Lucas

Prejudice or Brotherhood

BROTHERHOOD

Of all the gifts God may bestow,
The greatest gift we humans know,
The sweetest joy, the highest good;
Of life itself is brotherhood.

From when shall come this wonder thing
This rich reward for clown and king;
How shall we know the password, pray,
When Comrade Christ shall come our way?

Thus shall we know, O friend of mine;
Thus shall we greet the Great Divine;
Thus shall we feel this faith so true;
This comradeship long overdue:

Brotherhood is burden-bearing,
Loving, lifting, helping, sharing
Every load a brother bears,
Every pain his sad heart wears.

Brotherhood is comradeship
Of the heart and life and lip;
Comradeship by day and night;
Brown and yellow, black and white.

Brotherhood is reaching out
With a hearty handclasp and a shout
Of friendliness—God's righteous plan;
The love of Christ alive in man!

The tight skirts of prejudice shorten the steps of progress.

* * *

A prejudice is a vagrant opinion without visible means of support.—*Bierce*

* * *

A dear old Quaker lady, distinguished for her youthful appearance, was asked what she used to preserve her charms. She replied sweetly, "I used for the lips, truth; for the voice, prayer; for the eyes, pity; for the hand, charity; for the figure, uprightness; and for the heart, love."

—*Jerry Fleishman*

* * *

Often attitudes are kindled in the flame of others' convictions.—*Lois Le Bar*

* * *

The person who always looks down his nose gets the wrong slant!

* * *

Unless our civilization is redeemed spiritually, it cannot endure socially.

Four things a man must learn to do

If he would keep his record true:
Think without confusion clearly;
To act with honest motive purely;

To love his fellow man sincerely;
Trust in God and heaven securely.

* * *

We fear to judge a watermelon by the exterior view,
We plug it for a peep inside to see if it will do.

Now man is like the melon sold down on the mart;

We cannot rightly judge him unless we see his heart.

* * *

"But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin and are convicted of the law as transgressors." James 2:9.

* * *

THE CHALLENGE

The challenge comes to Christian men,
The world demands new proof again.
The Church, the Book must stand the test,
To show the world God's way is best.
The cause of Christ will suffer loss
If Christian men bear not the cross.
No longer words, nor empty creeds;
The world demands new proof IN DEEDS!

* * *

Peace comes only from loving, from mutual self-sacrifice and self-forgetfulness. Few today have humility or wisdom enough to know the world's deep need is LOVE. We are too much possessed by national, racial, and cultural pride.

—*Horace W. B. Donegan, D.D.*

The only difference between a rut and a grave is the length.

* * *

No one can be perfectly free till all are free; no one can be perfectly moral till all are moral; no one can be perfectly happy till all are happy.

—*Herbert Spencer*

* * *

All Christians who have dreams of human brotherhood, the time has come to teach the world how to have the love so little understood—for all the living world is neighbor now.

—*M. Cousens*

* * *

It is not the skin color, but the heart color that counts with God.

* * *

"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."—*Bible*

* * *

Democracy means not "I am as good as you are," but "You are as good as I am."

—*PARKER*

* * *

After all, there is but one race—*Humanity*.

* * *

"Of a truth I perceive, that God is no respecter of persons. But in every nation he that feareth God and worketh righteousness is accepted with Him." Acts 10:34.

HAPPY
HOME
BUILDING . . .

(Continued from last month)

Take Time

For



Your Family

By Virginia Heavilin

JESUS PRESENTS US THE TRUE PICTURE of God's parental love. We can learn from His teachings and from His example, for He is the very essence of love. How is real love demonstrated in a parent's life? We're told in Hebrews 4:15 that Jesus was "touched with the feelings of our infirmities." When our children come to us with their problems, are we compassionate as Christ? Do we suffer or rejoice with them as though we felt ourselves to be in their shoes? Or do we have our minds on something else "more important" and *half-way* listen to them, usually with impatience, and dismiss them as soon as possible? Would we, ourselves, want our Heavenly Father to listen to us in such a manner? We are told in Romans 12:5 to do just as Jesus did: "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep." That means our heart is in it, and I'm sure it should include our children, too.

We need to identify ourselves with our children's problems. How can we better do this than to get involved with their activities? Family living is the answer. *A home really becomes a home only as its members take time for one another.*

Then, what must we take time for? What might we, as parents, have to include in our schedule to attain the above mentioned ideal in family living? We need to apply the following outline to our family living:

TAKE TIME—

TO PLAY with your children.

You yourself need a certain amount of relaxation to work your best. You *are* at your best when you are relaxed, and your children deserve to be with you when you *are* at your best. Too often, the family gets the worst end of your day; is it any wonder so many homes are split apart?

TO WORK with your children.

It may be easier to do all of the work yourself with the children out of the way; but it is our responsibility as parents to train our children for life. If we wait until we think they are old enough to learn a certain job, they may not then have the interest that promotes the learning process. Work with them as soon as they show an interest. They may soon pass out of the best stage for learning that particular task. We must learn to gear our readiness to their readiness.

TO WORSHIP with your children.

This means more than attending church together. This togetherness is centered around the home. Are your family devotions relaxed, unhurried, and truly conducive to worship? Are they geared to the participation of every member? Do your sessions include prayer, scripture reading, singing, and the sharing of problems—either of group interest or personal? The entire family should be interested in the problems of all of its members—to the extent that age difference permits even a partial understanding of the problem. The children will learn to appreciate one another better with this sharing.

TO STUDY with your children.

Do you keep well posted on all of your children's school work, visit the school, and cooperate with the teacher's efforts to guide your child? Do you encourage interest in extra work related to his school work?

TO MAKE SOME NEW DISCOVERY with your children.

Let your mind expand with theirs. Learn more about nature, for example, with them. Lead them into an enthusi-

astic search for knowledge. Worldly allurements in the entertainment world will not have a chance to get a foothold on them if you start early enough and work faithfully with them in this fascinating pursuit.

TO APPRECIATE SOME BEAUTY with your children.

There is beauty all around us—in nature, in the world of sound, of sight, of fragrance, and of the arts. In the field of art, enjoy reading good literature together—both poetry and prose. Enjoy listening to high class music; if you have a radio or T.V., direct their interest consistently to the high class music, etc., that will elevate their thinking and thereby bring them in closer touch with God who created and inspired all good and pure art. Enjoy beauty in the visual arts. Creativity begins first with the appreciation of the beautiful.

TO DREAM with your children.

This look into the future in temperate amounts is wholesome. It is spoken of commendably in Joel 2:28, a prophecy of our day. All progress is based on dreams—noble dreams. Tomorrow will be better if we take time to dream today. Tomorrow is based upon today's dreams. Of course, it is important what kind of dreams we cherish. But, usually, the sort of dreams we like to share provide a good sense of direction. Share yours with your child, and encourage him to share his with you. This sharing will contribute much to the development of your child's character.

TO PLAN with your children.

Share family plans with the children. They may have good suggestions to offer. And this experience of sharing with you in these can provide valuable training in constructive planning. They will learn to think as an adult when they are encouraged to think with adults. This can also help them to accept responsibilities sooner.

TO VACATION together.

This may be more expensive entertainment; but when the planning for it is shared, the children often are willing to forego numerous lesser amusements for the sake of planning and working together toward this long-range goal; for it is something which they will long remember and cherish. This will be an important part of their education; so it is well worth the financial cost.

(Continued on page 34)

A Modern Day Parable

By Cecyl Fischer

"Income tax?" I said. "I don't believe in it." All my friends and neighbors were staying up late nights, poring over papers and forms and stewing about April 15, but I couldn't be bothered.

"What's the use of Income Tax?" I said. "Who needs it?"

They asked me where I thought our schools and highways came from and who paid our ambassadors and financed conservation and public welfare and research. But the answer didn't bother me. It was enough that we had them, I thought.

Year after year this went on. People around me were diligently keeping records and collecting receipts and it seemed like such a waste of time. I had more exciting things to do. Besides, it was costing them money. What foolishness!

"Government is just a word," I told them. "How do you know it really exists? Did you ever see it face to face? Maybe all those schools and highways just happened."

But they wouldn't listen. They insisted all this was really necessary and some day I would wish I had listened to them.

I laughed and said, "Maybe."

Well, I went on my carefree way and I had a lot of good times. And I thought I was happier and wiser than anyone. I started getting notices and bills from the Internal Revenue, but I paid no attention. Interest was accruing at an astounding rate, but I laughed it off. Then it happened. I met the government face to face.

It was the day they knocked on my door and told me I was under arrest that I started to believe. Now I am in prison working off my debt to the government. Now I believe in Income Tax.

So here I am. The chaplain just left. He's been telling me all about God.

"How do you know God really exists?" I asked him. "Did you ever meet him?"

Of course he wanted to know how I thought the earth was formed and the sun and moon created. "I never thought much about it," I told him. "For me it was always enough that we had them."

He told me that someday I would wish I had thought about it.

"Maybe," I said; but I didn't laugh.

Make a

MARK OF MERIT

By Nathan Lawson

We have one more winner to announce for the 1967 year. Spring Vale Academy ended the year with 425 points—a Silver Mark of Merit. Claremore, Oklahoma finished with 335 points, just 15 points short of a Silver Award.

1968 YEAR OFF TO A GOOD START

Many of our groups have started with a real active program this year. We have several new groups that have joined the Mark of Merit Program. We hope that they will continue to provide these fine activities for their young people. There are also several groups that have not sent in their reports for the First Quarter. There is still time to send them in. If you did not receive a report blank, write for one now. Following is a list of point totals for the first quarter:

	Points	Bonus Points
Tahlequah, Okla.	177.5	64
Detroit, Mich.	135	52
St. Joseph, Mo.	140	11
Bloomington, Calif.	80	81
Eureka, S. D.	195	72
Tacoma, Wash.	170	5
Spring Vale Academy	170	5
San Antonio, Texas	195	25
Midway, Okla.	150	9
Sacramento, Calif.	170	9
Elmira, Oregon	160	130
Lodi, Calif.	175	21
Ontario, Calif.	195	140
Kansas City, Mo.	185	10
Stockton, Calif.	195	20

FOREIGN WORKER SUPPORT—HONOR LIST

Following is a list of FYC groups that have supported our Foreign worker for the 1968 year. Is your FYC included? We consider this a select list of

FYC groups who are mission-minded. The Foreign Worker Support is \$6.00 per year for each FYC. The name of your FYC will be added to this when your group supports our FYC Foreign Worker.

Tahlequah, Okla.	San Antonio, Texas
Detroit, Mich.	Sacramento, Calif.
St. Joseph, Mo.	Lodi, Calif.
Eureka, S. Dak.	Ontario, Calif.
Tacoma, Wash.	Claremore, Okla.
Spring Vale Academy	Stockton, Calif.

Even if you do not join the Mark of Merit program, your FYC can be included on the Honor lists for National FYC and Foreign Worker Support.

HERE ARE SOME GOOD IDEAS

To give you an idea of what can be done by your FYC group, here is a list of projects carried on by the Elmira, Oregon, FYC for the first quarter of 1968: 1. Passed out tracts and gave personal invitations to revival meetings. 2. Singspiration at Rest Home. 3. Gave special program at Coos Bay Church. 4. Sponsored Tobogganing outing. 5. Trip to help at Coos Bay Church. 6. Helped sick person with work at home. 7. Sold Cotton Candy (\$44.12). 8. Held pie social and fun night (\$180.00). 9. Provided special singing at Harrisburg Revival. 10. FYC viewed Billy Graham movie. 11. Cleaned church and served lunch to men working on new building. 12. Worked on new church building.

PROJECT OF THE MONTH

SPRING CHURCH CLEAN UP. Spring is a good time to give your church a real complete clean-up. Set a day. Make sure all FYC members can be present. Clean all the corners and places that are missed in the regular clean-up. Pick up all the papers outside. Perhaps there is a place that needs a little fresh paint. This would be a fine project for your FYC to carry out.

1967 AWARDS TO BE SENT OUT SOON

A new order had to be placed for Awards. They will be sent out to the winners as soon as they are received.

I hadn't realized how short life was until I turned the average seventy-year span into seconds one day while waiting for a telephone call. It figures out, in round numbers, at about 2,250,000,000 seconds, of which the average man is likely to be awake, or at least partially awake, for 1,500,000,000 seconds.

I thought, how foolish of any of us to spend those precious seconds—those eye-winks in eternity—quarreling, worrying, or being just plain bored. I think I am going to be a reformed character from now on. My friends and relatives tell me I could stand some reforming. I could tell them a thing or two, too—but there goes another precious second, never to be recaptured!

—Selected

2T4G

Take

Time

For

God

By Kathleen Roche

In a previous article we read about the importance of prayer in the life of a Christian. Let's go on now and study the piece of the Christian's armor that puts power in prayer. There is a song that says it this way: "Prayer is the key to heaven, but faith unlocks the door."

If you've ever made bread and forgotten to put in the yeast, you know from experience that the dough doesn't rise very far. But when the yeast is included, the dough will rise, be squeezed down, and rise again. Our prayers fall flat like bread dough without yeast unless we add a little faith to raise them up to God. It doesn't take much yeast to make a large batch of bread. And Jesus said that if we have faith as a grain of mustard seed, nothing shall be impossible unto us (Matthew 17:20). So you see, "It is not the greatness of (your) faith that moves mountains, but (your) faith in the greatness of God."

There is one other small word that should be considered in connection with the few thoughts on faith. Hebrews 11:6 reads, "But without faith it is impossible to please him:" and then James 2:17 goes on to say, "Even so faith, if it hath not *works*, is dead, being alone." It has been said that "There is no greater obstacle in the way of success

Date	Chapter
May 15	Lev. 15
May 16	Lev. 16
May 17	Lev. 17
May 18	Lev. 18
May 19	Lev. 19
May 20	Lev. 20
May 21	Lev. 21
May 22	Lev. 22
May 23	Lev. 23
May 24	Lev. 24
May 25	Lev. 25
May 26	Lev. 26
May 27	Lev. 27
May 28	Num. 1
May 29	Num. 2
May 30	Num. 3
May 31	Num. 4
June 1	Num. 5
June 2	Num. 6

in life than trusting for something to turn up." Just praying and believing you will someday own a house and then sitting back to wait for it to appear isn't likely to pay off very well in this life. Why should we then expect to have prayers answered or gain a home in God's eternal Kingdom without working for it?

Prayer, faith, and works—all essential, but not a one that will bring results without the other two.

June 3	Num. 7	June 9	Num. 13
June 4	Num. 8	June 10	Num. 14
June 5	Num. 9	June 11	Num. 15
June 6	Num. 10	June 12	Num. 16
June 7	Num. 11	June 13	Num. 17
June 8	Num. 12	June 14	Num. 18

LOOKING FOR A FENCE

(Continued from page 17)

truest sense. Yes, we want a true home and parents who care. For, behind every delinquent's "I don't care" attitude is a longing for understanding and guidance. This understanding and guidance we teenagers want so much can be gained only by our parents' setting rules for us and making sure we follow them by restricting us inside a so-called fence.

The farmer solved his problem of his cows crossing the fence. He electrified the fence. Once the cows received a couple of good shocks they stayed inside the fence. By grazing in the green, grassy pasture inside they became fat, healthy cows. If our

parents electrify our fences by setting rules for us to follow, our lives will also prosper and we will find our fence. But if they've set no limitations for us, we, like Billy and Janet, will eventually be added to the long list of America's miserable teenagers who are looking for a fence.

If your troubles are long standing and hard sitting, why not try kneeling?

* * *

Seek not greatness, but seek truth and you will find both.

—Horace Mann

* * *

If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way.—J. K. Clarke

MINUTEMAN

"The Time Is at Hand . . ."

By Carol Millican

We have considered in previous articles the desirability of leading the overcoming life and how to become an overcomer. In this and future installments we will see what God's Word has to say about some things that we need to overcome and the traits we should put in the place of these things. I have chosen to divide the topics into two groups: (1) those traits that are, for the most part, "secret" and the overcoming of which would be chiefly a matter between us and the Lord; and (2) those traits that affect our relations with others. Although I could not hope to cover all the traits that a Christian should overcome, I have picked topics that, in the opinion of this writer, deal with problems most often faced by the overcomer.

Ecclesiastes 3:1

John 9:4

Matthew 25:21

Ecclesiastes 9:10

Matthew 5:13

Colossians 3:23, 24

Ecclesiastes 9:11

This month we are considering what is probably the most abstract term in the English language—Time. Just what is time? We would all agree that time is relative—it passes quickly or slowly depending on how it is occupied. How long is an hour? To the student "sitting out" a boring class, it is an eternity; to the newspaper columnist fighting to meet a deadline it is but a fleeting second.

Most of us have probably heard the word "procrastination," and I would dare say that all of us have been guilty of this vice. Unless we consciously train ourselves to do otherwise, we tend to do tasks only as we are forced to do them and at the time we feel forced to do them. There seems to be a vicious circle—we put off important tasks until a "more convenient" time and are bored when we have "nothing to do."

Why not break the vicious circle and find the blessing as part of your overcoming life? It's no easy task, but "with God all things are possible." The Lord Himself is our pattern here as well as in other matters. Starting at the early age of twelve, He wasted no time in "going about His Father's business" (Luke 2:49).

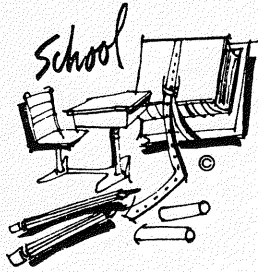
By correctly using our time I do not mean that there should never be time for relaxation. As one of our memory verses this month indicates, "There is a time to every purpose." But the pitfall to avoid is rationalizing by saying, "I just can't do this now—I must relax sometime!" This kind of reasoning, when it becomes habit, leads to much relaxation and very little accomplishment.

One way that this writer has found to help overcome procrastination is to make out a schedule at the beginning of the day—thinking about the time that I have available during the day and putting the most difficult tasks as close to the front of that schedule as possible. The schedule should, of course, be flexible, because unexpected events can destroy it. That's all the more reason to put the most difficult and most pressing tasks first—then you are surer of getting them accomplished. If there are certain things that you do every day (or should do every day), have a definite time on your schedule *every day* to perform that task; determine that you will perform that task at that time every day unless you are prevented by circumstances beyond your control. One thing you should make time for every day is a period of Bible reading and prayer—at least twice a day—morning and night. If you find time for this, you will find that you accomplish much more with the rest of your time! In addition to the above pointers, I have found it a good idea to list a few things I can do if I complete a task before the time allotted on my schedule.

Another big pitfall to avoid is frustration. This is really the devil's tool! You will probably fall short of the goal you set for yourself at the beginning of the day. But never allow yourself to despair and decide to quit trying. Instead, at the end of the day, go over your accomplishments in your mind and determine if your shortcoming was beyond your control. If you *could* have done better, don't waste time hating yourself—thank the Lord for allowing you to accomplish as much as you did and ask Him to help you accomplish more for Him the next day. Remember that you are to "do all things as unto the Lord" and He would not have you frustrated—although falling short of your goal may be His way of keeping you humble!

This writer can testify to the wonderful feeling at the end of a day when the hours have been used as though they were loaned by the Lord. I urge you to try it for at least one day!

The verses this month underline the importance of our stewardship of time. Next month we will consider the importance of our stewardship of money.



School Notes

M.B.C. REPORT

As the month of April began, several of the students and Stanberry FYC'er's journeyed to Easton on April 6 to have Sabbath afternoon services with a small group that meets there. Those who went were Brother and Sister Carl Cory, John Lemley, Joy Meader, Jerry Moldenhauer, and Herbert Murray. Herbert spoke on "The Duties of the Watchman."

Sunday morning, April 7, the junior FYC sold a waffle breakfast to the church members, including the college students. That evening, church services were held—the first of a series of three consecration services in preparation for the Lord's Supper Thursday night.

Ken Brunson went to Oklahoma with his parents and some students from Spring Vale for the Lord's Supper and the weekend. Nick Nimchuk went to Rolla to administer the Lord's Supper there. Many blessings were obtained by all of us during this sacred time.

The FYC had a Youth Retreat the weekend of April 12. Many blessings were received, especially from the Sabbath morning service in which Elder Hendricks gave a most inspiring sermon on prayer and its power.

Sunday morning was also filled with songs, testimonies, and a time to seek relief from burdens in prayer.

After returning to the college, seven of the men put the polishing touches on their speeches for the speech contest which the Women's Christian Temperance Union sponsored that night. Gerald Pedersen won first prize; Mike Weir, second; and Larry Hadden, third. These men should be commended for the fine job they did in witnessing for Christ. After the contest, the college served refreshments in the basement to raise funds for the college banquet.

Sabbath the 20th, was a tri-church all-day meeting here in Stanberry. Elder Garland Brunson and Elder Robert Coulter were the main speakers of the day. Many blessings were received by all who attended. Sabbath evening Brothers Paul Linville and Larry Hadden showed slides they had taken while stationed in Alaska. Following the slides, the FYC was host to the visitors with a hay ride at the Morrow farm.

During the weekend of the 26th the College quartet, consisting of Paul Linville, Ivan Burrell, Ken Durham, and Ken Brunson, traveled to Oklahoma with Elder and Sister Lawson, and Joyce Weir, the pianist. All received a wonderful blessing while

attending the Quarterly meeting at Tulsa. About 250 people were present at the meeting.

An all-day meeting was also held in Kansas City the last weekend of April. Several Midwest students attended to take part in the afternoon youth program. After sundown the Kansas City young people invited us on a hay ride. A slight accident made the hay ride one which we will remember for a long time. Praise God none were hurt or injured seriously.

Sunday, the 27th, was the date set for the annual college banquet. Nick Nimchuk was especially honored as the only graduating senior this year. Elder Hendricks was also honored as he will receive a special certificate upon completion of this year's courses. Elder Noah Camero was the special speaker for the occasion. His words of admonition were not only good for those being honored, but for all present.

We covet your prayers for us here at Midwest as we look forward to the soon coming of our Lord and Saviour. Amen.
—Ken Brunson

SPRING VALE REPORT

The last few weeks of our school year here at Spring Vale are very busy, but they are also among the most enjoyable of the year, except for the fact that we will soon be separated for a long while.

The F.Y.C. presented the play, "The Lost Word," on March 23 and then again on March 30. The play inspired everyone, both audience and cast, to carry the message of Jesus Christ to those who once knew, but

now have forsaken, the abundant Christian life.

Sunday afternoon, March 24, the chorus group traveled to Freeland, Michigan, and presented a concert under Elder Patchen's direction. The chorus hopes to present more concerts in the various churches here in Michigan, if possible.

We were happy to have Elder and Mrs. Dale Lawson and the Midwest Team, Mike Weir, Ken Knoll, Lael Tikili, and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Hadden, with us for the weekend of March 28-30. Elder Lawson spoke for the services, and Bro. Lael Tikili gave his testimony and reported on the progress of the church in Nigeria.

A program entitled "The Stranger of Galilee" was presented by the F.Y.C. officers for the monthly State-wide Rally. The life of Christ was portrayed by the use of slides and songs to accompany different phases of our Saviour's ministry on earth. The Senior class gave a Box Social in the evening to raise money for their class trip. The bidding got pretty warm, when the senior boys started raising some of the other boys. Next time the girls want to have a turn-about and let the boys do the decorating. The seniors left on April 24 to spend a few days in Washington, D.C.

The Michigan Spring Vale Alumni Chapter gave a Talent Show Saturday night, April 13, in order to raise money to furnish a room in the new girls' dorm. They featured skits, stunts, and musical numbers. They also sold refreshments and balloons for the children. There was quite a large crowd; this made the evening that much more enjoyable. Everyone commented about what a nice time they

had had, except the school janitors (who had to clean the school the following day). The event brought in more than \$320. This will go a long way toward furnishing a room, and we would like to thank everyone who took part in it—both for a good time and, also, for the interest they have shown.

Elder and Sister John Kiesz from St. Louis, Missouri, held revival services April sixteen and seventeen. The congregation was blessed by the sermons, by their singing, and especially by their warm, friendly spirit.

The new girls' dorm is progressing at an amazing speed. Bro. Joe Shapitka is back on the job after a short vacation when his wrist was cracked by falling from a ladder. He is working very determinedly on finishing the dorm soon. At the present time (April 25) the ceilings of all the rooms are done; Joe has constructed most of the lavatory vanities to go under the sinks, as well as other cabinets. Mrs. Shapitka has taken charge of the girls' applying the primer coat of paint to the walls of the rooms. We would like to express our thanks to the Shapitkas

for helping so much to make our new dorm attractive.

Graduation on May 19 will soon be history and just a memory, but we can look forward to next year and count on even more wonderful blessings together.—*Dixie Walton*

GUARD THY TONGUE

Guard thou thy tongue from ceaseless words,

Whatever else you do;
And ere you speak of anything,
Be sure you know it's true.
For often times some little words,
Though said in fun and jest,
Will fill some tender, loving heart
With dire unhappiness.

Guard thou thy tongue from careless words,

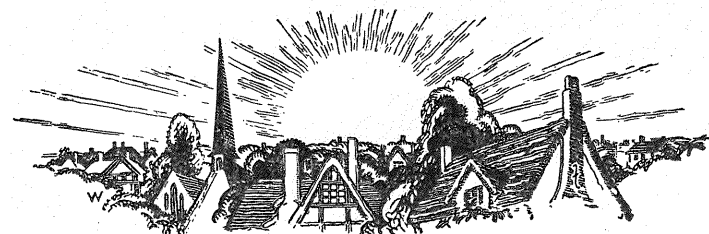
For frequently I've found
An evil word will carry weight
When lightly passed around.
So let your mind no evil think,
Your eyes no evil see,
And when you of your neighbor speak,
Use words of charity.

—*Alice M. Barr*

TAKE TIME FOR YOUR FAMILY *(Continued from page 24)*

Finally, take time to live—really live—with your children (not apart from them—each in his own separate world of learning experiences—but together). This will promote growth, mental receptivity, alertness, and joy in living. It will enrich your life as well as your children's.

“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it” (Prov. 22:6). Too many parents have relied upon this promise and wondered why their children have—contrary to that promise—drifted away from them. We must meet the conditions if we are to realize the fulfillment of the promises. Training is more than just telling; it is working patiently with the object of your interest—careful, detailed guidance.



Camp Meetings in '68

WEST COAST DISTRICT CAMP MEETING will be held in Sacramento, California, July 9 through 13 at Governor's Hall on the old state fair grounds. For further information write to: Elder Ray L. Straub, 2623 Altos Avenue, Sacramento, California 95815.

DISTRICT NUMBER 4 CAMP MEETING will be held at Dover, Oklahoma, July 21 through 27. For further information write to Elder Ross Johnston, Box 64, Inola, Oklahoma 74036.

CENTRAL DISTRICTS CAMP MEETING will be held in Stanberry, Missouri, July 12 through 20. For further information write to Elder Nelson Caswell, 281 W. 79th Place, Denver, Colorado 80221.

EASTERN DISTRICTS CAMP MEETING will be held at Camp Wabanna near Mayo, Maryland, August 18 through 25. For further information write to Elder Floyd A. Turner, 3466 Bennington Rd., Owosso, Michigan 48867.

Graduation Time

The Commencement exercises at Spring Vale Academy, Owosso, Michigan, will be conducted on May 19, 1968.

The Commencement exercises at Midwest Bible College, Stanberry, Missouri, will be conducted on May 25, 1968.