

A Thanksgiving Game

By William L. Stidger

I have a little game I like to play with my friends every November as we approach Thanksgiving time. I write at least one of what I call "Thanksgiving letters" every day in November.

I write that letter to somebody to whom I am truly thankful for something he has contributed to my life in the past and whom I have never stopped to thank. Years ago I started out with my parents. I wrote them letters thanking them for all the beautiful, helpful things they had contributed to my life when I was a child, a young man, and even into middle age.

Then I wrote to my closest friends, one by one. Here was one friend who had introduced me to the works of Tennyson, Browning, Dickens; another friend who had spoken a wise word to me at a crucial time in my life. I wrote to all of my old teachers, from grammar school through high school and college. Sometimes a letter went to a cobbler, a grocer, a newsboy. Sometimes one went to a banker in my home town or to a streetcar conductor. One went to a high-school football coach, whose address I found one day in the newspapers, because he had done an heroic act of saving a child from drowning.

There is no limit to the number of people to whom these letters can be sent if one sits down and thinks about those who have made some distinctive contribution to his life. The tragedy of it is that we accept these contributions and never think

to offer thanks for them.

One of the most beautiful things about this little game is the rich treasure house of letters we get in return. People who had long since forgotten us are thrilled by them. Teachers who have retired and who are sitting alone and lonely in some secluded room, forgotten by the world, are given a new lease on life by those "thank you" letters, and they are eternally grateful for the heartening words we send them. I have a big file of the letters in answer to my Thanksgiving letters through the years.

I did not start out this little November game for the sake of receiving letters. In fact, I was only doing it to satisfy my own soul; but the by-products of writing those letters have enriched my own life immeasurably. Now when I get to feeling blue and need a little lift, I read those letters over and am heartened and refreshed by them. One such letter I received this year. It came from a high-school teacher, whom I had thanked for inspiring in me a love for Tennyson. This is her letter:

Dear Willie: I am an old lady in my eighties. I am ill and cannot leave my room. Your letter came like a ray of bright sun, illuminating my dark day and my even darker life. You will be interested to know that, after fifty years of teaching, yours was the first letter of thanks I ever had from a former student. You lifted the clouds for me.

—Selected

Aim

The magazine for young people



FOR ALL THESE THINGS

by Reginald Vincent Holmes

"What am I thankful for, this day?"
I heard a poor man softly say.
"A chance to earn my daily bread,
A place each night to lay my head.

"A soft, white hand to ease my care,
A child's small voice to rise in prayer;
A special friend, both kind and true,
To help me right the wrongs I do.

"To dwell where tyrants fear to tread,
Where freedom's flag floats overhead;
The faith to ask on bended knee,
God, may all men be rich like me."

—Fireside Fancies

Keep your happiness in circulation.

Aim The magazine for young people

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Hope E. Dais, Editor

Many favors which God gives us ravel out for want of hemming through our unthankfulness; for though prayer purchases blessings, giving praise keeps the quiet possession of them.—FULLER

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WELL, THANKS!

By Cecyl Fischer

The trouble is too many of us don't know what "thanks" is. It is a word we use when we are passed the salt and pepper. It is something the cashier says as she hands us our purchases. It's an embarrassed reply to a nice compliment. It's a piece of etiquette, neatly packaged.

And who would object to the word as such? The world is a little nicer because of it. But on the other hand, "thank you" should be more than a word; it should be a feeling. It should be a warm feeling inside when someone does something nice for us. It should hint of love and brotherhood. It should smack of compassion and understanding, and most of all, it should plant in us the desire to do something in return.

Now let us be careful not to carry this to its ridiculous extreme, that we should never accept a gift or favor unless we are prepared to return something of equal value. If that were the case, how could we accept salvation? Ours is but to do what we can. The desire should be there and when we see a need that we can fill, let's fill it,

whether great or small. It's not the amount that we are able to do that counts. It's the feeling behind it that is the great equalizer.

When it comes to thankfulness, there are two kinds of people in the world—the "sponge" type and the "garden hose" type. To see what I mean, try this. Get a damp sponge and a piece of garden hose. Now pour water into each of them. The sponge drinks thirstily of the water, growing fatter as it drinks, and barely wetting the surface under it, but the hose gives as fast as it receives. It is needless to say which represents the Christian. It has been said that no thank you is really sincere unless it involves the **DESIRE** to do **SOMETHING** in return.

Try to imagine this, if you can. You are a passenger on a small fishing vessel when it encounters a storm and capsizes. You know how to swim, but not well enough. The fright is too much for you and you are panicking as you struggle for air. Suddenly a hand reaches toward you and a fellow passenger helps you aboard the life-raft he has

managed to secure. As you struggle together toward the little island nearby where you can wait for help to come, a parcel floats near you and, hoping it is of value, you grasp it. It is—it's food supplies. Who knows how long it will be before you are found. What a break!

Now the question comes—do you share the food with your rescuer or do you say, "Thanks for saving my life," then eat your fill and offer him what crumbs there may be? The question is almost too ridiculous to ask, isn't it? And yet, Christ saved our lives, even at the price of His own—and many of us offer Him crumbs. Is this what we call thanksgiving?

Thanksgiving Day will soon be here. To many it will mean a day off work, a day off school. To some it will mean a long weekend. To many it will mean a big roast turkey with gravy and cranberries and—oh, my! To some it will mean an opportunity to throw a big shindig. I hope to us who are Christians it will mean a time to meditate about what God has done for us and what we have done for God.

* * *

NO FAITH!

"I have no faith in men," you say.
No faith in men, my eye!
I saw you board a plane with ten,
And ride across the sky!
"I have no faith in God," you say.
No faith in God, indeed!
Why did you dig into the sod
And scatter flower seed?

—The War Cry

YOUTH,

I attended the funeral of a young man today who was instantly killed in a car wreck. He was so young to die—just twenty years of age. Seemingly, he should have lived fifty or sixty years longer, or more. So far as I know, he left no testimony behind that he was ready to go, although the minister who spoke of his life and sudden departure seemed to hold out some hope of his eternal welfare.

But while sitting in the church the thought of this message came to me—**YOUTH, BE READY.** Then my mind went to this Scripture: "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them" (Eccl. 12:1). O that this text could register in the heart, mind, soul and life of every youth of our country today, and all over the world! Remember God while young. Don't shut Him out of your life and let everything in that will keep you out of the kingdom.

Death comes oftentimes so suddenly and unexpectedly. Hence the great, **GREAT im-**

Be



ARE YOU PREPARED?

By

Walter Isenhour

READY!

portance of being ready. Young people die as well as the old. There is no life-period free from death. It comes to all classes, all ages, all colors, creeds and kinds of people. However, by carelessness, thoughtlessness, useless adventure, recklessness, terrific driving, and in various other ways, people often hasten themselves into eternity ahead of the allotted time, I think.

I am sure there is a great tendency on the part of the majority of our youth today to neglect their soul's salvation. They think that, since they are in the very bloom of youth, they have many years to live yet. They likewise think they can "enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season," and then go out in future years of life and seek God and be saved. This is per-

haps the greatest mistake that millions of our youth are making today. If they could just see and realize this, I think life to multitudes of them would be so different. They would first make sure, as much as possible, that they are remembering God; that they are heeding His commandments; that they are depending upon Him as their leader and guide through life; that their soul's welfare is put first of all things. They would want to help all their youthful friends, associates, classmates, roommates, and all others to live for God and reach the kingdom.

However, I feel sure that the vast majority of our youth today are thinking of everything else more than they think of salvation and everlasting life.

Multitudes are bent on getting an education, which costs them years of study and maybe lots of money. They think of getting married and having a nice home in which to live; think of having a fine automobile in which to ride; think of filling some monied position so they can have plenty of money with which to buy everything hearts desire; think of keeping up with the styles and fashions of the day; think of standing high in society, many of whom would like to become quite popular, or even famous, though apart from God and His righteousness and holy approval.

But dear youth, let me speak to you from my heart. You never know what a day may bring forth. Today you may be well and strong, making your plans for tomorrow. However, please remember this: "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? it is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away" (James 4:14). Jesus said "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matt. 6:33). In other words, Christ is telling you to be ready for anything that may happen today or tomorrow, lest being out of God's will, and unsaved, you lose your soul.

The height of all wisdom is to be a Christian and ready for our call from time to eternity. This applies to the youth as well as the old and decrepit. Whatever you may be aiming

for, dear youth, or whatever your plans and purposes may be in life, the ONLY safe thing is to live for God now, and at all times. This is indeed sensible, reasonable, possible, commendable and worthwhile. I'm sure God's Holy Word bears this out.

What if you do miss some things the world offers you? What if you do have to turn from the thrills the devil offers you if you will follow and serve him? What if some people turn up their noses at you, turn their backs to you, scoff and shun you? What if you do miss the ungodly dance, the wild parties where they drink beer and liquor, smoke and commit adultery? After all, what are you missing? Simply this: you are missing the way hellward; missing a wrecked and ruined character, possibly; missing heartaches and remorse that sin would bring to you, to your home, to your husband and children, or to your wife and children in future years. Think of it! O, may God help you to think! Not only that, but act on what God enables you to think. He knows best what you should do, how you should live, and what is in store for you if you live for Him, or against Him.

Yes, be wise, act wise, live wise. Prepare in early life for all that the future years may hold in store for you as a noble Christian. Then can you say with the Psalmist: "Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all (ALL) that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my

soul, and forget not all his benefits; who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is

renewed like the eagle's" (Psa. 103:1-3).

Oh, that I could take you into my confidence, dear youth, as a father, as an old-time minister of the Gospel, and help guide your feet to the Celestial City! I hope and pray to meet you there.

A Matter of Status Seeking

You may have read Vance Packard's "The Status Seekers" when it came out a few years ago. Would you believe that there is enough interest in this subject of status-seeking for this book to have become a runaway best seller?

Status-seeking may well be our number one national pastime. It shows up in the clothes we wear, the cars we drive, the houses we go in debt for, and sometimes even the churches we choose to attend. Too many of us literally spend our lives "keeping up with the Joneses."

It's the nature of humanity, however, not only to want to "keep up with the Joneses" but to try to get ahead of them. And once you get involved in that rat race, it is extremely hard to get out of it.

Of course, it's far better never to start down this rugged and perilous road of status-seeking. There is a basic, naked selfishness involved in it that genuinely wise and truly noble souls will have no part of. And yet, not many among us possess such wisdom, such nobility. The vast majority of us are obviously in-

fectured, to a greater or lesser degree, with the virus of status-seeking....

In spite of this infection however, there is hope for us. The essence of that hope is that we will have the insight to perceive the crass selfishness, the essential idolatry, and the utter futility of status-seekers. Christ had this insight when He admonished us to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. The hope for the future of mankind is that by example and precept we will heed Him and teach our young to drink at the springs of truth, and honor, and duty, and integrity, and love so that they will grow up to be "inner directed," and not "other directed" persons.

This is precisely the point of that wonderful verse from the Bible, "Be not conformed to this world but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." There is really no place for status-seeking in the life of the transformed person who lives in the knowledge that "every man must give an account for himself" to God at the Judgment Day.

—Dr. Foy Valentine

"I really admire anyone who will come to another and talk over a situation, willing to apologize if he has done a wrong." These were the sort of words that I heard when I went (rather reluctantly at first) to talk to another when I learned he had something against me.

I hadn't felt I was at all in the wrong, but it helped a lot to put myself in the other person's place and try to realize how I would have felt in his shoes.

felt sure within yourself that you were entirely in the right and had done all you could to be fair? It's a good experience! You most likely will come away having gained a much deeper understanding with that person than you ever had before.

Perhaps I shouldn't tell you this, but you might even come away from that discussion realizing that perhaps a little responsible for the misunderstanding or at least the develop-

If you know that all is not right between you and some other person, stop and evaluate a little. Which really is the most important—that **you** maintain your dignity and do not admit that you could possibly be at all in the wrong? Or that you make very sure that you as a Christian "bend over backwards" (so to speak) to make sure that nothing in your actions is offensive to another.

Would it be worth some humility

you come under the rebuke in Jesus' words when He said, "...ye pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law" (Matthew 23:23).

After we become a Christian and strive to obey God's laws as well as we can, Satan will have many snares which he will lay for us. It will not be an obvious one (like tempting us to steal or lie). No, Satan works cunningly. Might he cunningly try to work in you by

The "Second Mile"

Before I went, I didn't even feel that he was the sort who would even accept an apology gracefully if one were given, or discuss the issue fairly, but I found there was created between us a real bond of understanding as we talked—one that had not been felt before. I know that both of us were softened. It was worth a great deal of effort and a great deal of swallowed pride.

Have you ever had the experience of going to someone with the attitude that you could be at least partly at fault in some misunderstanding that has arisen, even though you **happ** could possibly have been

ment of circumstances which led up to it.

At least, you will come away feeling much more willing to accept some of the blame if it will serve to demonstrate to someone else that your stewardship to Christ is not in the "letter of the law" but in real love and generosity and understanding within your own heart. This love and generosity must generate both to others and to God, motivating your actions, which include obeying His precepts. Obeying His laws is not enough, though. Love must come first.

CONFORMITY

An old adage often heard is, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do." This is the watchword of the cult of conformity. The badge of this cult is the chameleon lizard, which takes on the color of its environment. What this old world needs is a few convinced non-conformists who have the courage of deep conviction, the vision of the kingdom of God on earth and a deathless determination to keep at the job until others begin to follow. Let us suggest a motto for you as a member of this club. It is, "When in Rome, do as the Christians do." This applies anywhere; when at home, when in the city, when in the country, when at work, when at play. Do as a Christian does. This is heroism. This is faith. This is satisfaction.—*The Beam*

on your part to perhaps pave the way to lead another to Christ? Or if it be a Christian with whom you might be dealing, would it be worth it to make an extra effort beyond what you feel is your duty in order to draw that one completely into the fold of real fellowship by your love and concern?

Remember this—even if you have not the faintest inkling what may be wrong, if you have the knowledge that another is offended because of you, then the responsibility is yours.

If you haven't done all within your power to make things right with that offended person, might

planting within you an unforgiving heart and an uncompromising attitude? "...Lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled" (Hebrews 12:15).

Are you willing to go the "second mile"?

If you were impressed as you read this, that you should go to that certain person, already you may be starting to think, "No, not him—not her. I've already done all I can." Don't let the evil one discourage you in this manner. Go. But go humbly, and after much prayer—with a humble spirit.

Would You Rather Have

LOVE



or

A BOMB SHELTER?

By Mona Davis

Love fulfills the law! "Thou shalt love the Lord, thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul, and with all thy mind—and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two hang all the law and the prophets" (Matt. 22:36-40). This is hearkening diligently unto Jehovah to observe and do all His commandments (Deut. 28:1-14).

Among other promises and blessings for obedience under faith and grace is this one which we need to heed today. "The Lord shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face; they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways." He said He would fight our battles for us if we had faith to be obedient.

THE CAUSE OF OUR ENEMIES' FEAR

"And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the Name of Jehovah; and they shall be afraid of thee" (Deut. 28:10).

Are they afraid of us because of guided missiles, better planes, atomic and hydrogen weapons? Or because we have learned to love God and keep His commandments?

All the marvelous promises of God which cover us like an insurance policy rest on our faith, love and obedience to hear and do His Words, to know and prove His good, acceptable and perfect will (Rom. 12:1, 2).

Jesus made it so simple and it is not complex. "If ye abide in me, and my Words abide in you, ye shall ask what you will and it shall be done unto you" (John 15).

LOVE IN REALITY

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son to live through us as the Vine lives and bears fruit through the branch.

"Knowledge puffeth up but love edifieth." The baptism of the Holy Spirit gives us the right to seek earnestly a spiritual gift which will edify, mature and

unite the Church of God. Love is the greatest gift!

We all go around trying to show that we know more than anyone else when we should go around loving and serving more fully. Humbleness would make us admit our errors and deficiencies, and seek to correct them.

In the churches today the spiritual gifts are thrown out for the substitution of a pastor and laity. Yet in Acts, all were called to different offices and gifts. "How is it then brethren? when ye come together, everyone of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying." But love edifieth the most and is the greatest gift (1 Cor. 12:13, 14).

The reason for our lack of maturity among Christians is that too few are fed on the Word to be perfected in love (1 John 2:5). Hearing and doing His Words show that we love Him, and perfects us in love.

LOVE—THE FOUNDATION

Love then is the foundation of the home and church. It has been proved that children who have not love in the home do not even grow physically or mentally and may be like a vegetable. Yet it should be constantly analyzed, for people forget its parts and fail to act on them. TV, movies, poor books and conversation have given our generation the concept that love is lust, passion, and romantically

"falling in love." A giggle, guffaw or titter at raw conversation shows how too much thinking runs on love, not seeing its positive use in every area of life. In such an atmosphere, how can we expect youth to make wise marriages?

Love then is:

1. Kind, courteous, considerate, patient, waiting on God.
2. Patient, having its perfect work in faith, waiting on God.
3. Unselfish, seeking not her own, loving neighbor as self.
4. Truly meek, knowing God as the Source of Love; humble.
5. Non-resistant to evil, overcoming with good.
6. Thinking no evil, beholding not the failures, but the good.
7. Never failing, but fulfilling the law.

To love our neighbor as ourself then is to see our Father in the unlovely, the prostitute, the drunkard, sick and needy. Thinking to ourselves, "There but for the grace of God, go I." Would not this love send the pew-bound Christian into the needy areas of his community to give time, talents, energy and money in service?

A SOLUTION OF THE DIVORCE PROBLEM

Real love would solve the divorce problems and has in many, many areas. Have you heard of 'divorce anonymous' which deals with those seeking a divorce by those who have either overcome in some like manner

or same situation, or found the futility of getting a divorce, realizing that the same problems must be met in the life in one mate or another? I believe a good thing would be to give a lovely framed copy of 1 Corinthians 13 to every bride and groom—or to those considering a divorce. For love thinks no evil and never fails!

Love thinks no evil! This is a transformation of the mind not to be conformed to this world but renewed in thinking in obedience to the Christ Mind. People read our minds through indefinable ways, and can know if we are thinking they are stingy, ungrateful, mean, unfaithful, dumb or a failure. They tend to fulfill our thoughts and return them in trying to outdo us in unkind thoughts and words. So it is a boomerang measure that we get what we send out in thought, word or deed. Let us send out nothing but love and we will have love returned to us in abundance (Luke 6:38).

A SOLUTION TO WAR

Love would solve war. How can that be? Is it a softy attitude which opens the door to Communists (or any enemy) in peaceful co-existence? No, for we cannot promise with anything or make covenants with the enemy, or with anyone but God. Love is contacting the Source of Love—God, Who said if we rid our country of the inner enemies of disobedience He will fight our battles for us.

DESTRUCTION IN THE NAME OF FREEDOM

In the name of freedom we have had a softy attitude on crime, dope, cigarettes, liquor, pornography—and these are the things which God made clear in the past would destroy our country as it did Israel.

PROMISED PROTECTION

Love never fails! But love of God with all our being comes first for we cannot truly love our own selves or our neighbor without such an obedience. "If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in His love" (John 15:10). "These things I command you, that ye love one another."

All this can only come as we abide in the Vine of Christ, letting Him bear the fruit of love, joy, peace and power through serving others. Only through faith and grace can we have a love which fulfils the law.

If disobedient, under the law we have no claim to His protection. With His grace, and love for God and neighbor, we can claim this promise: "Behold all they that were incensed against thee shall be ashamed and confounded; they shall be as nothing; and they that strive with thee shall perish. Thou shalt seek them and shalt not find them, even them that contended with thee; they that war against thee shall be as nothing and as a thing of nought."

Thanksgiving Story

"I well remember the first Thanksgiving which was kept in my native village," said a Western Congressman long ago.

"I was then a little shaver of nine years old, trying to earn a few pennies by selling newspapers. Someone marched all the newsboys to the union meetings, where all the churches of the town joined in thanking God for His mercies. There was a great deal said about the prosperity of the nation, the general peace, the abundant crops, and what not. I confessed it puzzled me and bored me. I knew nothing about the nation outside of our little city. I had no idea of war, and so I could not rejoice in peace, while as for crops, I supposed that meant Squire Potts' corn and oats, which did not concern me.

"I came out of the church indifferent and sleepy. Just then the squire himself met me. He was a portly, kindly man. 'Hello, youngster' he said, 'Here's something for yourself—something to keep Thanksgiving on.' He gave me a quarter. That seems a trifle to you; but I had never before

had a penny that I felt was my very own. The money I made with the paper all went to my mother. We were very poor.

I remember that I sat down on a doorstep with the quarter. I felt that I should shout aloud if I spoke. What should I buy with it? I thought of twenty things that would be a grand surprise to Mother and riches to myself. I was fairly dizzy with happiness. The sun shone bright and warm, and a tree overhead rustled gaily. Suddenly it occurred to me that God had sent me this money through the squire.

"I said nothing; but there was no such thankful heart in the city that day as mine. I was a living Thanksgiving."

The little story has its meaning. It is possible for us to give someone a personal reason for Thanksgiving. We may never be able to praise God with our voices or with any investment, but we can call forth thanksgiving for the poor and needy, and cause the heart of him that is ready to perish to sing for joy.

—Selected

Thanksgiving comes to the people of the United States once a year by statute. To the grateful man it comes as frequently as the heart of gratitude will permit.

—Edward S. Martin



Twenty-Four Hours of Boredom

By Joy Meader

"Oh dear, here it is Friday already, and I haven't done half the things that I wanted to do this week. It will soon be sunset; then I can do nothing, nothing at all until sunset Saturday. I almost hate to see the Sabbath come," thought Susan.

"Oh, I know that Saturday is the Sabbath and I must keep it for it's the right thing to do. But, I can't do a single thing on the Sabbath and it's so boring. Sometimes I almost wish that I had never read that tract; then I would have been all right. Oh, I shouldn't think such things, but I do!"

Just then Susan heard Bill's voice as he came walking lazily across the front yard to where she was sitting in a lawn chair.

"Hi, Doll, let's go to 'Joe's' and get a hamburger and a chocolate malt."

"Bill, you know it's Friday night and I can't go."

"Oh, you and your religion; it's the craziest thing I ever heard of. You know, Susie, you were doing just fine until you got wrapped up in that stuff."

"I know it's hard for you to understand. There are sometimes things I wonder about, too. But I can't go, and I won't."

"Susan, do you love me or not? If you loved me, you would not do this to me. Anyway, you won't be paying for it—I will. Your religion doesn't say you can't accept a hamburger and a malt from the guy you love, does it?" said Bill, as he pulled Susan into his arms.

"Oh, Bill," cried Susan, "you know that I wouldn't do a thing to hurt you, but my conscience tells me that I shouldn't go."

A look of anger coming over Bill's face, he pushed Susan aside, "O.K., Sue, if that's the way you want it, I'm sure I can find someone to go with me who will keep a lonely guy company."

But as Bill hurriedly started to walk away, Susan cried, "Oh, Bill, come back. I'll go with you."

With a feeling of reservation, Susan got into the car. Bill promptly reached over and turned on the radio. A loud blast

of "I Want to Hold Your Hand," rang out.

"Do you have to play that radio now?" asked Susan. I'm not supposed to listen to that kind of music on the Sabbath."

"That's your religion, not mine!" said Bill angrily.

"Oh, dear," thought Susan. "I might have known that he would want to listen to the radio. Oh, I shouldn't have come; I can't keep the Sabbath when I'm with him."

As they drove up in front of "Joe's," Susan was thinking, "Oh, I hope nobody recognizes me."

Just as they got to the door they met Johnny and Nancy. "Well, Hi, there," greeted Johnny.

"Hey, Susan, I thought you weren't to go to places like this on Friday nights?" Nancy asked with a puzzled look.

Susan's face turned crimson and she hung her head in shame. As they walked away, Susan heard Nancy remark, "A fine Christian she is; she doesn't even live up to her religion!"

Once inside, Susan knew that she shouldn't have come. The jazzy music was playing loudly. Susan turned to Bill and said, "Take me home, Bill, right now. I should never have come."

Bill was angry now—very angry.

"You're not much company, anyhow! O.K., I'll take you home for good! We are through!"

Bill took his anger out on his driving. Wrecklessly he sped

around the winding road. Suddenly the car was out of control and it left the road. Bill hit the brakes, but the car kept skidding; then it turned over and hit a tree.



Days later, Susan finally gained consciousness.

"Where am I?" asked Susan in a daze.

"You were in a severe car accident. Now everything will be all right. You just be quiet. You are in no condition to be talking," said one of the nurses.

"How's Bill?" demanded Susan almost in a panic.

"He will be all right. He has a few broken bones, but they will heal."

* * *

A few mornings later, Susan awoke to the sun shining through the hospital window. "Today is the Sabbath," mused Susan. "I'm so thankful that God has allowed me to live to see another Sabbath day. It wouldn't have been a bit unfair if He had let me die. I deserved to die! God is surely a loving God to give me another chance."

"Hello, Susan," said Mary cheerfully as she interrupted Susan's thoughts. "I thought I would come to see you this beautiful Sabbath day. We can keep the Sabbath together. It is easier that way."

"Oh, Mary, I'm so glad you came to see me. I get so lonely here. Mary, I sure took the hard

way to learn, didn't I? I wish I had listened to you more closely and heeded your advise about keeping the Sabbath."

"Susan, I'm afraid I was to blame. I told you all the things you couldn't do on the Sabbath—not to work, not to go to this place or that place, etc. But I never told you what you *could* do on the Sabbath. I failed to show you just how the Sabbath *should* be observed and enjoyed."

"Mary, I don't understand. You mean that there are certain things one can enjoy doing on the Sabbath?"

"Of course! You don't think God is like that? If He didn't approve of us doing certain things on the Sabbath, why the Sabbath would be an awfully boring day."

"That's exactly how I used to feel," exclaimed Susan. "Why, I hated to see the Sabbath day come, for I felt I couldn't do anything on the Sabbath day. Since there is no church nearby, I was at a loss. I didn't know how to keep the Sabbath Day. Why! the Sabbath was only twenty-four dreaded hours that seemed like a yoke around my neck."

"Back in the Old Testament times that was how the Israelites kept the Sabbath day. They had a long list of what they couldn't do and they were very strict in keeping the Sabbath right to the letter of the law, which was a yoke around their necks. But when Christ came on

earth, He taught man that we're not to keep the Sabbath to the letter of the law, but we're to keep it in the spirit."

"I don't understand," said Susan.

"The Sabbath is twenty-four hours long, but during those twenty-four hours there are many things a Christian can do so that the Sabbath need not be a day of boredom, but a day of joy and gladness. Since we don't have any church to go to it seems hard, but it need not be. There are only a few Sabbathkeepers around here, but we should assemble together and worship God on the Sabbath day. The Bible says, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20).

"It is hard to keep the Sabbath when you are with people of the world, for they talk of things of the world, everyday happenings, pleasures, and good times. Some of them swear and use bad language. They listen to the radio and television. They keep you in the spirit of the world. You can't think on things of God when you are around worldly people. Our minds should feast on spiritual things during the Sabbath hours. The Sabbath is a good time to study our Bibles. If we are going to be ready when Jesus comes, we must know what is in the Bible in order to be able to withstand the evils of the last days."

"But I don't understand the

Bible when I read it," said Susan.

"And you never will understand it if you don't read it. The more you read it, the more you'll understand it. And you will discover that the Bible is the most interesting book on earth to read.

"On the Sabbath we can also read Christian literature. There is plenty of good Christian literature which helps us spiritually if we'll only take time to read them. Our church has papers which they put out, and there are a lot of Bible tracts that will help you to learn more about the Bible. We also have a free Bible course which would be very helpful to you.

"The Sabbath is a very good time to listen to beautiful hymns, if you have a record player. If not, you can always sing hymns yourself. 'Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.' We don't have to be famous singers in order to sing praises to God. God gave us our voices in the first place, so let Him be the judge of whether to listen to us," laughed Mary.

"Oh, I love to sing!" exclaimed Susan. "I don't care how I sound."

"The Sabbath is a good time to go on nature walks to observe what God has made for mankind to enjoy, all the different kinds of trees, flowers, and birds. But when we do go for walks we should be careful not to talk of worldly things but to talk of things of God."

"I'm beginning to understand what you mean when you say that we should keep the Sabbath in the Spirit," said Susan with eyes that gleamed with the light of new understanding.

"The Sabbath is a good time to visit the sick and shut-ins. Also, the Sabbath is a good time to witness for our Lord and Saviour. We can give out tracts, have Bible studies, and write Christian letters to our unsaved friends and loved ones. Just to be still and have time to meditate is something that every Christian needs, and the Sabbath is a good time for that."

"Oh, Mary, if a person did all those things on the Sabbath, they would need a forty-eight-hour Sabbath day!" exclaimed Susan. "Why, there is a lot one can do on the Sabbath day. I thought that the Sabbath day was a day of 'don't do's,' but it isn't. Oh, I know from now on that the Sabbath day will be a day of joy and gladness, not a day of boredom, now that I know how to keep it. Thank you, Mary, for showing me how to really keep God's Holy Sabbath Day."

"I'm sorry that I didn't show you before," said Mary. "I guess we both have learned a lot today. You've learned how to keep the Sabbath day in the spirit and not in the letter. I have learned that when you show someone the truth about the Sabbath that you must not fail to show them the real truth of how to really keep it."

The

IMPORTANCE

of

Unimportance

I am first and most importantly a child of God and it is only through this role that I can find expression in the other things I do.

by Lorraine Faubion

A stranger just stopped me and, for seemingly no reason, asked permission to ask me a question. Considering the number of pollsters running around today, I gave my consent and was unconsciously preparing myself to endorse the political candidate of my choice, so his question took me by surprise. Plainly he asked me "How important do you think you are?"

My immediate and only possible answer was, "Not very."

This answer made the man smile and he asked again, "Do you really think you aren't very important?"

So I clarified what I meant by saying that, compared to the universe and all God's creation I am very insignificant. Of course, I admit I feel myself to be of great importance to me, and in relation to the things and people around me; but they in turn are insignificant when compared to time, space and the whole of the universe.

He smiled again, and I asked then if that was the answer he wanted. He replied soberly, "That is a very good answer."

This chance conversation bothers me now for as I look

back on the original question my mind searches for other answers to other questions.

How important am I really?

The fact that I believe in the Christian concept of salvation should help determine my answer. After all, I believe that I am important enough that God hears my prayers, that He keeps me from harm, and He sent His Son to die for my sins. I must be very important then!

But still—God didn't save just me, Jesus died to save all men. This broad term includes, as a very tiny part one twenty-one-year-old female that happens to be me. It would not have to have my name included **BUT IT DOES.** This is the most wonderfully important part of

Salvation. That in spite of the fact that this little piece of matter is unimportant, God in His infinite grace cares enough to watch over me even while I sleep. Isn't it wonderful to be so insignificant?

If I ask the question we first asked with a different object, how will it be answered? Suppose I ask myself, "How important is my new car to the planet Earth?" My answer must again be the same as before; not very important. Because I am unimportant, the things I see as desirable are also unimportant. The beautiful things I dream of obtaining and feel I deserve are only as important as I. The trouble arises out of my not being able to realize that they, too, are not important when compared with infinity, thus placing a higher value upon them. The only truly significant thing in life (God) cannot compare with the wealth I seek on earth.

How difficult it is to be able even in part to examine my life in comparison to less visible

things. Yet, as I approach the responsibilities of adulthood, or perhaps accept them, I must also take my place in my world and the world I do not immediately see.

I have a great many responsibilities and many roles. I am first of all a member of a family, a church, a town, county, state, and country. I am a student and as a student I am divided in various ways as to departments, honors and accomplishments. I am part of various national and local organizations. And so forth. I do not consciously realize all of these roles at the same time, yet I am just as much a part of the U.S. at this moment as I am one of the fifteen or so sitting in this room even though I do not concentrate on either role.

Above all else, I am a child of God, and this responsibility is related to each of the other roles I play. Just as I cannot divorce myself from the earth, I cannot stop being a child of God. Oh, it's true I can claim I don't

believe in God, but this does not make Him cease to exist.

The same would be true if I were to suddenly say there is no such thing as what we consider to be air. Even if I refuse to acknowledge God, my relationship with Him still exists although I choose to ignore it. Just as breathing would be useless if indeed there were no air, so life has no function if there were no God. I am first and most importantly a child of God and it is only through this role that I can find expression in the other things I do.

I am not always a student, but I will always be a child of God. This extends, if I am faithful, even into the greater life in the Kingdom. Therefore it is not so much my will which determines how I participate in my other roles, but my subsequent role in relation to God.

If I can make this role with God a part of every thing I do, then I will be doing all according to God's plan for my life. My insignificance has n't changed, yet I contain a spirit of willingness to submit to the will of God and do His bidding. I am therefore worth as much as God chooses to do with me. This mind and body I possess can function only insignificantly unless God controls its function.

How important am I really? How important are you? God cares about each sparrow—and He thinks you and I are important enough to hear and important enough to save. But un-

less we give ourselves to God we can never achieve importance that lasts. The things we do in ourselves will fade, but what God can do through this insignificant piece of clay will last forever.

• • •

IN GOD'S SCHOOL

An education means an effort and often entails sacrifice in the hope that the student will make good. He is expected to make progress in his studies.

In the spiritual life it is the same, and provision is made in the Scriptures whereby we may grow in grace, taught by the Holy Spirit. James said, "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only," and Jesus said, "By their fruits ye shall know them."

Your life is a proof of how much of the gospel has been absorbed, for it is a living force that cannot be hid. It can be detected in your personal testimony.

The Teacher—the Holy Spirit—expects you to make progress in your spiritual experience, but unbelief and disobedience sometimes creep into conduct and speech.

The Holy Spirit is constantly urging you to draw near and "receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls." Paul advised, "Let the Word of God dwell in you richly." Carelessness is a disappointment to those who are looking to you as a leader and an example.

Sincere and wholehearted Christians prove that the gospel is a transforming power in their lives, bringing joy and a song.—Ernest Bridle in War Cry

The Editor's Page

All eyes are on the batter—bases are loaded, and two outs. What a responsibility the batter holds in his hands! He may strike out or he may make a grand slammer, making the difference of four whole points in the game—and very well determining the outcome of the ballgame. If he comes through with a home-run, he's a hero. Thereafter he gets applauded when he merely steps to the plate. If he strikes out, then at least for the moment, in his fans' eyes, he's a failure.

What kind of "performance" (witness) do you give as a Christian when eyes are upon you? Do you suppose there's ever a time when it is expected that your reaction will be different—more controlled—more patient, tolerant, more Christlike, but instead you actually let your observers down by displaying the same sort of reaction they can expect from someone who does not profess a consecrated Christ-life?

I recently read a simple statement someone made about an acquaintance, saying: "She says she received Jesus as her Saviour. I believe her. She is so kind and forgiving."

This is a challenge. Can it be said of you?

You may not realize that some acquaintance is watching you, seeking to know whether the life you live and the truth you believe is the answer to his needs. Though the church and its members may be scattered over a wide area of the world, still *you* may be the only contact some one person, or persons, will have with your church.

May it never be that your lack of real Christ-living might turn someone from even *trying* to find out whether the concepts you embrace are the genuine.

May it never be said of one of us, "She (or he) *says* she is a Christian, but . . . she is so quick to lash back with her tongue," or ". . . she has so little regard for others' feelings," or ". . . he so willingly and consistently points out his own superiority above others." (Just examine your life to know what the "but" might be in your case.)

There are so many areas in which you can STAND OUT as a Christian. If you are a professing Christian, then you are "up to bat." You're "in the

running." So "be thou an example of the believers—

... in WORD

... in CONVERSATION

... in CHARITY

... in SPIRIT

... in FAITH

... in PURITY

... TILL I COME."

(1 Timothy 4:12).

And when Christ appears in the

sky, "we shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord." A HOME-RUN?? Well, I think it might qualify! Certainly we'll be HOME!

So while you're faithfully running the race, be diligent that you might bring some others "in Home" with you. Make your life a GRAND-SLAMMER for the Lord.

Heart to Heart...

The Olympian Quality

By Elden Fischer

The world's 18th Modern Olympic Games in Tokyo have come to an end. Whether you kept up with the events as they occurred or not you can derive several lessons from these international games. The competition was keen, the pressure was great, and the good sportmanship was dramatic. Very few athletes could speak with each other, but these racial and nationality barriers didn't limit the feelings of friendship and love.

After competition in a swimming event, no political difference could prevent an embrace between an American girl and her Russian competitor. When an athlete came near to breaking under the tremendous strain, he was calmed by the steadying hand of a competitor. It is said that the entrance of one's team into the stadium for the opening ceremonies "could wring tears from the most flint-hearted observer." Reading about the games and seeing some of them on television gives one a hint of how wonderful the atmosphere must be where all people meet together on com-

mon grounds.

Wouldn't it be a real step forward if this Olympian spirit could be injected into the United States? Would not this country be better if the Olympian spirit existed between races here in the United States? Wouldn't the ranks of our churches increase if the Olympian spirit would prevail? In ancient literature Mt. Olympus was the mythical abode of god-like beings. To use the term "Olympian Spirit" in the sense of a "Christ-like Spirit" should not be too far-fetched, although there is no com-



parison between the mythical Greek gods and our God. The meaning of the term "Olympian Spirit" is magnified when used in reference to Christ. Let's let a Christlike spirit abound everywhere—in school, at home, in the neighborhood, and above all, in church.

Ever since the Rome Olympics in 1960, some athletes have worked hard to get ready for Tokyo. Others made the team within the last month. Two young men stand out in my mind. The one is the orphan Sioux Indian boy, Billy Mills, who was not expected to place in the Olympics. The United States had never won the 10,000 meter event; our star runner had a sprained leg so all hope was lost. The world's record holder was in the lead. But wait! After twenty-eight minutes, more than 6 miles, Billy Mills was running arm and arm and leg for leg with the world record holder and another runner. Not only did Billy Mills win and surprise the world, but he broke the world's record as well. Only Billy knew how running one hundred miles a week had helped him.

The other fellow is a Wichita, Kansas, high school senior with "an intense competitive spirit." He is the world's fastest high school miler, and was a member of the Olympic team. He didn't have outstanding skill in junior high, but he selected the goal

of a 4-minute mile and worked toward it. The qualities these athletes possess are self-control, determination, and faith.

With the Olympian qualities of faith, sincere desire and a high goal, you can be an influential Christian. A lot of talent is not needed to be on Christ's Olympic team. God can take people like Saul, Moses, David and Peter, and make soulwinners out of them. He can make soul-winners out of you and me.

Exercise your Christian virtues and they will increase. Athletes don't become winners overnight. Steady practice will bring results in your faith and Christian growth too. You can select your place in the Olympic Team and win a place in the greatest gathering of Olympians (Christians) of all times. Then the Olympic spirit will abound in a greater measure than in any modern Olympic games.

If we follow the modern Olympic motto of "Swifter, Higher, Stronger," greater things will come about in our lives as the Lord blesses. Let the Lord make you a gold medal winner—NOW!

* * *

You can't get through this world without making mistakes. The fellow who makes no mistakes does nothing, and that is a mistake.

UNITED EFFORT

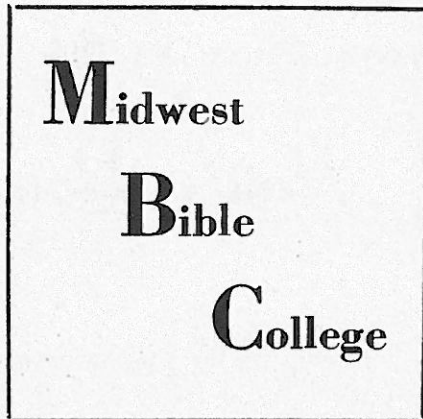
One bee working from May to October, though flying thousands of miles, will gather only one spoonful of honey, yet by combined effort there is seldom less than one hundred pounds of honey in a hive. If the "weak things" of the Lord were only united and pulling together, how often they would "confound the things that are mighty."

Midwest Bible College is continuing an active program this year in spite of obstacles. Shortly before college was scheduled to open it was determined that Elder R. C. Moldenhauer would not be physically able to teach a full load of college classes, as had been planned. It was therefore decided to arrange for Elder John Kiesz to return and teach. But Elder Kiesz felt that he could not leave the work in St. Louis unless someone could take his place. Some arrangement had to be made in a very short time. We believe it was the leading of God that made it possible for a Midwest graduate, Elder Garland Brunson, to take the place of Elder Kiesz in St. Louis. And so Elder Kiesz is back teaching at Midwest and the college is in full operation. The opening date was September 28. Elder Kauer also continues as a teacher and Director of the college.

The situation is somewhat different this year at Midwest. First there are fewer students than last year; secondly, most of the students are married, which is unusual. There are seven ministerial students of which six are married. Five married women are part time students; three are wives of ministerial students. One single girl is taking part time work this semester. She is Violet Knoll from Wisconsin.

Another interesting but rather unique fact about the Midwest ministerial students is that two of them have the same first name and three of them have the same last name. And so in classes, the three Lawson boys are called by their first names but Daniel Camero and Daniel Coulson are referred to by their last names.

Perhaps at this point it would be well to list the students. From Oregon we have Dale, Kenneth, and Nathan



Lawson who have all been active in the youth work of the church in that state. From Michigan we have the two Daniels—Coulson and Camero. John Moldenhauer and George Tolbert have lived in Stanberry now for several years but originally John was from North Dakota and George from Iowa.

David Kauer planned to attend Midwest and he and his family moved to Stanberry from California. Then he was called to accept the position of General Conference secretary-treasurer at Denver. We were naturally somewhat disappointed as we had counted on his being our eighth ministerial student this year. But we wish him God's blessings as he enters new responsibilities in the work of the Lord.

Dale Lawson is taking a full load of classes at Midwest and also pastoring the Church of God at St. Joseph, Missouri. This program keeps Dale very busy in this, his last year at Midwest.

It has seemed rather difficult to get Midwest in operation this year. First the opening was delayed as we have previously explained. Then we had only three weeks of school before min-

isterial council, which took up a week. But now things seem to have settled down to normal and we hope soon to have more school activities in progress.

At this writing, senior students are helping Elder R. C. Moldenhauer conduct a revival meeting at the near-by Carmack community church. We are praying that many souls may be saved in this effort.

Midwest stands for a united front on Bible truth, and entire consecration to the work of spreading the Gospel of Christ. Young men who feel that God is calling them to preach His word in the ministry should give careful heed. Take an active part in the Faithful Youth Challengers pro-

gram of the Church of God. Study to become well grounded in the Bible truths as taught by the Church of God. Young people attend Spring Vale Academy to *learn* the Bible truths. Ministerial students attend Midwest to *learn to teach* the Bible truths which they have learned and fully believe. You may not have the opportunity to attend Spring Vale. But you can study the Bible with ministers of the Church of God. The tracts, *Aim*, and the *Bible Advocate* and other literature of the church will also be very helpful. There is a great need for young people to prepare to attend Midwest and then to come to Midwest to prepare to be full time workers for the Lord.

The Business of the Day

Patience Strong

It's just the way we carry through
 The business of the day
 That makes and molds the character—
 The things we do and say;
 The way we act when we are vexed;
 The attitude we take;
 The sort of pleasures we enjoy;
 The kind of friends we make.

It's not the big events alone
 That make us what we are;
 And not the dizzy moments when
 We're swinging on a star;
 It's just the things that happen as
 Along the road we plod;
 The little things determine what
 We're really worth to God.

—Heart to Heart Talk

Make a Mark of Merit

Time's Running Out--

by Dale Lawson

Nineteen Hundred and Sixty Four will soon be history—and memories—and we will be looking back wondering how it went so fast. New plans will be made and new goals set for 1965. Perhaps you will be seeing some new vision and with the help of the Lord will be more efficient as a servant of His.

The thing that is so important is that we use our time and opportunities wisely in the service of God. Even as this year will soon be over and 1964 will be no more, so it is with the time we have left to win others for the Kingdom of God.

We have this and next month to complete our FYC work for 1964. Make it the two best months of the year for your FYC! Be a real witness for Christ—as individuals—and as a group. We have many friends and neighbors who may never realize the glories of being a Christian and the rewards waiting for them, unless we witness of Christ to them. Don't plan to wait until next year (1965) because we may not be privileged to see the light of the year 1965.

It's a real blessing to see all the good reports, and to note each FYC group's program for every quarter.

I hope and pray that we as young people of the Church of God will really find our place in the harvest of souls. It's certainly possible to be

vessels for the service of God even as teenagers. What a blessing it is to see youthful energies being spent in real service to the cause of Christ. Young people, time is flying swiftly by and work needs to be done. Plan projects and services that will really be a light in your community.

Third Quarter Reports

I am sorry that the third quarter report forms are late. I hope to do better next time. Fill out the forms and return them to me real soon.

Three reports have come in for the third quarter. Below are the scores for the three quarters.

<i>California</i>	
Lodi	405
Stockton	420
<i>Missouri</i>	
Stanberry	405

Two second quarter reports have come in that weren't on time to get in my last report. Below are their scores for two quarters.

<i>Oklahoma</i>	
Claremore	155
<i>Missouri</i>	
Kansas City	185

Next year we want to have 20 FYC groups in the Merit Program. Don't miss it because it will help you grow.

Mail in your 3rd quarter reports soon.

Foreign Correspondence Activities

Jewell Linville

LET'S RESPOND!!

"It is more blessed to give than to receive," (Acts 20:35).

AFRICA

Brother Nelson Dimkpah's need for a typewriter for the Ahoada Office still has not been met! This request was printed in the August issue of AIM with the suggestion that our FYC Groups undertake it as a project—now that you have had time to think about it—let's RESPOND!

Every campaign must have a pattern, so let us begin our response with this plan:

1. Discuss this project at your "next" FYC meeting.
2. Agree to do your part in raising the necessary funds and outline your procedure for doing so.
3. Write and advise me of your affirmative decision, outline of your plan for achieving your goal, and offer suggestions. (Write to Mrs. Jewell Linville, Jennings Apartments, Lumberton Road, Lumberton, New Jersey.)
4. Work hard to meet your goal.
5. Watch for news on progress in AIM.
6. Reach your goal.
7. Send the typewriter.
8. Receive a wonderful blessing from the Lord for showing a friend we care by the giving of our Christian gift.

AND—START TODAY!

BROTHER DIMKPAH WRITES ABOUT GREAT SPIRITUAL REVIVING

Surely God is blessing the work in Africa as is evident from the following letter:

"My dear Sister Linville:

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ. . . the work there is frequently in our thoughts and prayers. I sincerely hope this finds you all in good health.

I still thank you much for your past letters. Sister, we are much in need and are endeavoring to publicize the work of the Church to a

greater extent than we have in the past, and are greatly in need of unity in the Church of God 7th Day in the Eastern Nigeria. Would that you dear ones remember and pray to God for pure love and unity.

Our District YPO at Ogba Ahoada met at Oboburu the 5th of September for the noon service. The attendance was poor due to heavy down pour of rain but thank God for the few who attended to discuss the progress of the work here. After the roll call, the question of Egbema Clan Church of God work came up. This took us pretty some time to go over since it embodied finance. At present this meeting decided that the Church there should be conducted in turns, as there is no fund for a station evangelist yet there. We preached outside the town. The listeners were over 200 souls, and as a result the Church at Obuburu is increasing in membership especially aged women. Thank God for the few who have come into the fold.

On the 19th September there was another service at Ohali Elu. It was the District Quarterly All-Day Meeting. The meeting opened with an hymn "Take the Name of Jesus With You" and after that, the Secretary Assistant Frank Njoku read the program for its occasion and officers took their places in the service. Mr. John Gibson taught the Sabbath School Lesson on the Gift of the Spirit.

At the end of that, Elder Josiah Ile took up preaching. The title—"Entrance into the Kingdom of God" supported with Biblical quotations. The sermon was very inspiring and felt with for he talked about certain events that are happening nowadays.

Special offering was taken for the proposed parsonage in building where the visitors from America would live and direct the work when they come. Praise God!

After this was done, I came up and had a talk on the Four World Empires beginning from the days of Babylonian Rule and to the present day rules and that Jesus Christ is expected to usher into the world soon. There was 368 attendance.

There was a need to get a station lay preacher here and soon Mr. Bethuel Omodo will care for the group here. It was a grand gathering indeed. There had never been a meeting like this since our work in this District. The services began at 10 AM and continued till 5 PM though with a short interval. . . .

Sincerely yours

Pastor N. I. Dimkpah"

"... The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16).

... and with his faith based upon this and other promises in the Divine Word of God, Brother Isaac Uwe of Ahoada, Africa, has

requested our consecrated prayers on his behalf in the following excerpt from his letter:

"I wish you people to convene a consecrated prayer for my sake and for surrounding trials against me. I should like you to inform me the appointed time when the prayer will take place, because on the day, I wish myself consecrated too."

As Brother Uwe has requested a consecrated prayer at an appointed time, let us unite our prayers on November 15 and not fail in our Christian duty to meet his request.

November 15 is a special date for united prayer, but let's not let it be the *only* date for prayer for our foreign brethren.

The request for our prayers was also made by Brother Dimkpah in his letter printed above. This is not a new request. Our foreign brethren are constantly desirous of our supplication to God on their behalf.

So may we "Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17) and on November 15 especially, as the Holy Scripture states in 1 Timothy 2:8, "I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting."

Millionaires

Harleigh M. Rosenberger

When I was a small boy, I remember reading the story of a couple who lived in Switzerland. They had four children and were very poor. A wealthy uncle said, "If you will let me adopt one of the children, I will make you wealthy."

That night, when the children were asleep, the couple talked of the offer. It would mean so much to the other children—there would be food, clothing, education, and many other good things in life. They had almost decided to accept the offer when they were confronted with the question, "Which of the children would they permit to be adopted?"

They stole into the room of the baby girl, and the mother shook her head. She was so tiny and needed a mother. The boy of five years was frail and needed love and care. The ten-year-old daughter was so much needed around the house. At the bed of their eldest son, the father said huskily, "Nay, we cannot part with John." And they returned to their fireside to write the uncle of their decision: they could not part with their dear children for mere gold.

All of us are rich, though we may not think it! Our family and friends are priceless possessions; and the beauties of nature and of life are inestimable in value. We are rich!—*Selected*

Grow More In '64

The

Age of "Instant's"



By Cecyl Fischer

Do you realize that you are living in the age of instants? Think a minute. How many foods can you think of on the market today that haven't come out in some "instant" or "quick" or "brown and serve" form? Let's see, we have instant coffee, instant tea, instant milk, instant pudding, instant cocoa, instant soup, brown and serve rolls, brown and serve pies, instant sauces, even instant dinners. And this is only a start. Remember what a delicacy homemade bread used to be? Until recently it had become practically obsolete in the modern home. Bread was something a sentimental homemaker would bake on special occasions for the sake of the memories that were mingled with the warm, delicious smell drifting through the house. But now—you guessed it! . . . instant homemade bread! You take a cold, hard lump of white dough out of the freezer in the morning, let it thaw a few hours, pop it in the oven and PRESTO! "homemade bread!"

Yes, we have a world of convenience at our fingertips—push-button stoves, pushbutton washers, pushbutton dryers—a world of pushbuttons and instant everything. Wouldn't you think we'd have all kinds of time on our hands? But instead people are busier and busier—too busy

to visit a sick neighbor, too busy to help out a friend or brother, too busy to pray, too busy to study the Bible.

What this world really needs is a few more instants—like a little instant comfort, instant cheer, instant truth, instant strength. And who shall provide it but the children of God, you and I? That should be our business. Remember Paul's words to Timothy in 2 Tim. 4:2. "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine." He admonished the Romans to continue instant in prayer." Yes, in this

world of instants we need instant Christians.

So you're thinking, "Okay, sounds good so far, but how do we go about it?" Good question! And there's a good answer—the Bible. Where else should we go for comfort, where else should we go for cheer, where else for truth, for strength, for hope, than to the Word of God?

How then do we make this Word of God available in instant form? By learning and knowing it in our minds and in our hearts. How many times have you encountered a situation which brought to your mind a certain verse and you could have taken the opportunity to testify or to cheer someone, but you couldn't—**QUITE**—remember how the verse went? If only you had your Bible with you; but then, even if you did, you wouldn't want to whip it out and go thumbing through it for the verse you had in mind, now would you? Instant Bible—that's what you need. How often you could offer comfort or cheer to someone with an appropriate verse if only you had it at the tip of your tongue. That, Friend,

is why we encourage you to memorize. Be a storehouse of instant courage for others, instant wisdom for yourself. Be able to "give a reason for the hope that is in you."

Now then, there is one more thing we must not overlook. If you have ever tried a taste of instant soup straight from the box, I think you'll be the first to agree that it isn't much of a delicacy. Even instants need some additive, usually water, to produce the desired product. Instant Bible is no exception. You may memorize the Bible cover to cover, but unless you add to it the watering of the Holy Spirit in your life, your knowledge is tasteless. Let us then continue instant in prayer.

Following are the eight verses we recommend for memorization in the coming month.

Romans 12:12
Proverbs 25:11
1 Thess. 4:17
Matthew 5:16
Psalm 27:1
Colossians 4:6
James 2:26
Ephesians 4:29

96ERS, THIS IS FOR YOU

If you have been following our "Grow More in '64" program of memorizing eight verses each month, please write immediately and let us know. If you are a leader or sponsor and you know of those in your FYC group who are participating, take the responsibility to write us and let us know how many they are. We would like to arrange national competition in this program if there are enough to enter.

Time is neutral. It is up to us to use it and invest it for good.

2T₄G -- TAKE TIME FOR GOD

By Noah Camero

Possibly there is no other book in the Bible that is as much read as the book of Psalms. Surely David must have spent much time in meditation and communion with God in order to write Psalms of such variety and depth.

It may take but a few minutes for us to read a Psalm, but how long do you suppose it took to compose it? You can be sure that every Psalm and chapter is the result of much concentration and dedication.

When one stops to consider the effort, time and care that it took to write the Bible and preserve it for us, one should appreciate its easy accessibility and avail ourselves of it. The time may come when it may not be so easily available. Then to what pains must we go to obtain it?

It took much time to write the Bible; it takes time to read it and understand it. But remember time is neutral. It is up to us to use it and invest it for good. If you have not done so already, do it now; resolve to take time for God.

Suggested Readings			
Date	Chapter		
	PSALMS	November 28	25
		November 29	27
		November 30	32
		December 1	37
November 15	1	December 2	40
November 16	3	December 3	42
November 17	4	December 4	43
November 18	8	December 5	48
November 19	10	December 6	51
November 20	11	December 7	52
November 21	13	December 8	67
November 22	14	December 9	73
November 23	15	December 10	91
November 24	19	December 11	95
November 25	20	December 12	100
November 26	23	December 14	115
November 27	24	December 13	106

FYC NEWS and REMINDERS

Sellout

After filling all the orders we had on hand and some that we received after the FYC pins came, we are cleaned out. In fact we have orders we haven't been able to fill. If there are pins left over from some of the large orders, please return them to us soon as others are anxious to buy them. If there is sufficient demand, we may place another order in the future. If you want pins, let us know NOW so they can be available by Denver camp meeting.

Operation Library

Is your group in need of a good project? Here are a couple of ideas. We are trying to build up our Audio-Visual library for the benefit of the local churches. There are two ways you can help:

- No. 1. Purchase a filmstrip for the library. We can send you a list of filmstrips we would like to have and let you select which one you would like to purchase for the library. Most of them cost from \$5 to \$8, records included.
- No. 2. Make a tape of special numbers from your group. You may feature *one* local singing group with several numbers, or you may record numbers from

several different singing groups. We want your best local talent to share with other churches. Such a project could count toward your mark of merit if sufficient numbers participate.

Foreign Correspondent Goes East

Our Foreign Correspondent, Jewell Linville, and her husband, Wildon, have moved to New Jersey. Their new address is Jennings Apts., Lumberton Rd., Lumberton, New Jersey.

Jewell has been handling all of our correspondence with our foreign youth leaders and making regular reports in AIM. I'm sure few of us realize the great volumes of work Jewell has put out in spite of her teaching job. Every month your leader files away many carbon copies of the letters Jewell has written to our brothers abroad. Many of their questions are not easy to answer and Jewell has handled this responsibility beautifully.

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group who are participating, take the responsibility to write us and let us know how many there are. We would like to arrange national competition in this program if there are enough to enter.

Packet of Helps

We are planning to send out a packet of helps to local FYC groups. We will have these ready to mail early in December if possible. If your group plans to work for the Lord in 1965, send us the names of your sponsor and leader. We are planning now for the new year. We won't be disappointed if we hear from the same group twice.

If you saw someone drowning, would you help? We need help, too, so send us your ideas. Even if you feel you have nothing to say, write us. This encourages us to help you. If you need any help, we might be able to supply; let us know and we'll do what we can. No burden is too great, no problem too small, but what we are interested in helping. After all, you are our brothers.

Write to Faithful Youth Challengers, 10601 E. 26th St., Independence, Mo.

Don't Miss Don Lonie

Here is an excerpt from a letter we received. It speaks for itself.

"I have just listened to the record, 'Don Lonie Talks to Teenagers.' It is really great! No teenagers should miss it, and I surely hope all the local FYC groups will take advantage of this opportunity and send to you for the record."

This new record in our Audio-visual library, 20-25 minutes playing time, is available to your Y.P. group free of charge.

Do You Care . . .

. . . whether we have a good motto for 1965? Please—we want and need your suggestions. Even if you don't have any ideas of your own, make sure it is brought up and discussed at your next business meeting. Perhaps your group can select some choices to submit.

Send gift subscriptions of AIM to your friends.

Enclosed is \$_____ to send gift subscriptions of *Aim* at \$1.50 each (regular price is \$2.00) to:

Name

Address

Name

Address

Your Name

Address

Mail to AIM, P. O. Box 158, Stanberry, Missouri

Available for Youth

The filmstrips listed below have been purchased by the Young People's Department and are ready to be used by local groups. If you have access to a filmstrip projector, you should by all means make good use of these.

SUBJECT TITLES

SET I—OLD TESTAMENT

1. *Joseph, Ruler of Egypt*
2. *Jacob, Bearer of the Promise*
3. *Joseph, the Young Man*
4. *Abraham, Man of Faith*

SET II—LIFE OF PAUL

5. *Stephen, First Christian Martyr*
6. *Conversion of Saul*
7. *Years of Apprenticeship (Paul)*
8. *Return to Jerusalem (Paul)*
9. *Ambassador for Christ*
10. *First Missionary Journey*

SET III—LIFE OF CHRIST

11. *The Calling of the Four*
12. *The Man Born Blind*
13. *The Healing of a Leper*
14. *The Healing of a Paralytic*
15. *The Visit to Mary and Martha*
16. *The Marriage at Cana*

SET IV—LIFE OF CHRIST

17. *The Later Ministry of Jesus*
18. *The Centurion's Servant*
19. *Rejection at Nazareth*
20. *Attempted Arrest*
21. *Fate of John the Baptist*
22. *The Raising of Lazarus*

A local group pays only 25¢ plus postage for the use of each film. Write to: Elden Fischer, 10601 East 26th Street, Independence, Missouri.

Books for Young People

by Clyde M. Narramore

This Way to Happiness A practical guidebook for daily living.

Paperback . \$1.95

Young Only Once Secrets of fun and success. Paperback . \$1.95

Life and Love Paperback . \$1.95

Happiness and Marriage .50

Dating .50

How to Study and Be Successful in School .50

by Eugenia Price

Find Out For Yourself A book to help young people find their own answers. Paperback . \$1.50

Never a Dull Moment Honest answers to honest questions asked by today's teenagers. Paperback . \$1.00

by Rosalind Rinker

The Years That Count Inspiration and guidance for teens and young adults. Paperback . \$1.00

Order these books from the publishing house.