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Aim

The magazine for young people



A Group of the Shawnee, Okla. FYC

See the Spotlight 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. 11

Hope E. Dais, Editor

STATEMENT

Of the ownership, management, and circulation (required by the Act of Congress of October 23, 1962; Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code) of the AIM published monthly at Stanberry, Missouri, for September 23, 1968.

Publisher: Bible Advocate Press, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

Editor: Hope E. Dais, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

Owner: The General Conference of the Church of God (7th Day), 1510 Cook Street, Denver, Colorado.

The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed through the mails and otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above is 777.

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Our cover photo shows some Shawnee, Oklahoma, FYCers: 1st row: Sue Kanady, sponsor; Arelia Garcia, Reta Washburn, Patty Padilla; 2nd row: Dave Pruitt, Janice Brown, Keith Washburn, Deborah Scott, Mike Mauldin.

Making Wise Choices



By Bose L. Dickens

"Research indicates that three out of four young people get their jobs by chance. Of the many who make their choices by guess, only a few guess right and the rest spend frustrated months and years working unhappily in something which has little value for them."¹ Not only is this true of most young people's choice of a job, but of friends, of a college, even of a marriage companion.

In my experience I have listened numerous times to individuals who tell me that some unwise choice in their youth has caused them much unhappiness throughout their later life. Bad choices have cast a blight over many lives that otherwise would have been happy. While no hard and fast rules can be laid down when it comes to making choices, the recognition of a few basic principles would have saved much unhappiness, bitter remorse and regret.

SEEKING THE WILL OF THE LORD

Early in his life, the Christian youth must develop the practice of seeking the will of God in all of his important decisions. He must not be content to make decisions on the strength of his own ability—or to leave it to chance. He must not simply make decisions and then see what the results are going to be. He must be content with nothing less but that his choice be God's choice. You are

¹James V. Lackey, UNDERSTANDING AND DEVELOPING YOUNG PEOPLE, Ep. 53.

probably asking, "In what way, then, do we seek to discover God's will?" There are principally three: Prayer, the Word, and the Holy Spirit.

Through Prayer

The Psalmist, in seeking to discover to know God's way and will for his life, prayed, "Shew me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths" (Psalm 25:4).

Moses exclaimed in prayer, "... I beseech thee, shew me thy glory" (Exodus 33:18).

On many occasions when I cried to God in the words of David, "Show me thy way," the Lord has revealed Himself to me and directed my paths and helped me make the right decisions. Often the Lord will reveal His will while one is in prayer and the problem will be settled then and there.

By the Word

While in prayer, the Lord may bring a portion of His Word to mind—the portion that has the answer that will guide you in making the correct decision. A few years ago, while trying to choose whether or not I should continue working with a certain individual in a certain business, the Lord spoke to me out of His Word and showed me what my choice should be. A portion of scripture was brought to my mind after praying and pondering over what decision I was to make. Although I was prospering in this relationship and the business was going well, I found that despite my extra efforts to make the relationship congenial, there seemed to be a point of contention without a cause. After being confused in mind as to what to do, the Lord, in response to prayer, gave me a revelation from the following passage of His Word:

"Better is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasures and trouble therewith.

"Better is a dinner of herbs where love is, than a stalled ox and hatred therewith" (Proverbs 15:16, 17).

By the Holy Spirit

The third way of discovering the will of the Lord is through the Holy Spirit, the chosen agent for directing the believer and the church in our dispensation. This agent is so important that Jesus said in Matthew 12:31, 32:

"Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven

him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come."

This writer feels that the great sin of the present-day church is its refusal to recognize the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the church. Much more stress should be laid upon the need of the Spirit's guidance than now is because *this is* the agent which alone can bless the church. How then may we seek and recognize the Spirit's guidance in making decisions?

The Spirit may speak audibly as is expressed by Paul in 1 Timothy 4:1: "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly (audibly or distinctly), ..." or the spirit may speak inwardly in the inner man—or the spirit may simply bring God's will to the mind in a flash. Jesus expressed this thought in the following words:

"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26).

By whatsoever means the Spirit chooses to reveal Himself, the revelation will be accompanied by a feeling of certainty and assurance—not feeling of doubt or vagueness. However, one must always be careful to guard against impressions which may have the resemblance of the Spirit's leading.

RECOGNIZING TRUE VALUES

Many errors which are made in making decisions are the result of wrong basic values. When we talk of values we mean the esteem or estimate that a person places upon one thing in contrast to another. The idea of having proper values is what Jesus aimed at when He spoke of the oft-quoted words, "For what doth a man profit if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? or what shall he give in exchange for his soul?" The point is clear that the soul stands for eternal values and there is nothing that can be exchanged for it. Nothing has a higher value than eternal life, but how many young men and women are giving the world and all of its allurements in exchange for eternal life?

Let us illustrate what we mean about values in another way. There were two young men who had four thousands dollars. One bought a car with his money, but the other decided to invest in a college education. Today the one who invested his money in a college education is a successful engineer and the other who bought the car is having a difficult time—unable to keep a good job because of his limited education.

Now what may we learn concerning values about these two young men? The values of the young man who bought the car were

based upon present enjoyment, while the value of the other was based upon future security. Proper values brought happiness to one while improper values brought unhappiness and insecurity to the other. This is one of the greatest dangers to youth—choosing the things that give present enjoyment without considering the end of that enjoyment. Another pitfall is to set a high value upon a thing simply because it has outward attraction. The youth who marries the girl only because she is beautifully built and much-sought-after, may soon discover that his values are based upon external attraction and not inward beauty. Choosing according to true values will bring lasting results and effect the eternal destiny of the chooser.

Moses is a wonderful example of a man who based his life's greatest decision upon true value, for the scripture says,

"Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward" (Hebrews 11:26).

EXERCISING PATIENCE

There are times when God's choice is made clear through providential circumstances. By this we mean that God can so allow circumstances to shape up that the way for one to choose becomes evident beyond a shadow of doubt.

In sharp contrast to this, however, there are times when the way to choose is so obscured with doubt and uncertainty that one does not know the best course to choose. At such times the Lord may not answer by any of the above methods. Though it is difficult at times, one should exercise patience and wait until the Lord makes the matter clearer.

CONSIDERING FAR-REACHING CIRCUMSTANCES

In making a decision, one must consider, What good or evil will my decision bring upon myself, my family and my posterity? The Bible reveals God as a God Who is concerned about the far-reaching results of good as well as evil (Exodus 20:5, 6). The youth who is not concerned about the effects of his decision upon himself, family and even his posterity does not choose with the attitude of God. Every youth would do well to ponder the effects Lot's choice of Sodom had upon himself, his family, and his posterity (Genesis 13:9-13; 19:1-38; 2 Peter 2:6-8).

Still water and still religion freeze quickest.

* * *

Many people come to bring their clothes to church.

Hesitation

by Carrie G. Lakin

I used to think *Solomon's Song* was beautiful, but that it was utterly meaningless even though I had been told that the loved and lover represented the marriage of Christ with the Church. I was wrong. There is much meaning to be found in the passages if one will but look for it. Take this passage for example:

I sleep, but my heart waketh: it is the voice of my beloved that knocketh, saying, Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled: for my head is filled with dew and my locks with the drops of the night.

I have put off my coat; how shall I put it on? I have washed my feet; how shall I defile them?

My beloved put in his hand by the hole of the door, and my bowels were moved for him.

I rose up to open to my beloved: and my hands dropped with myrrh, and my fingers with sweet smelling myrrh, upon the handles of the lock.

I opened to my beloved; but my beloved had withdrawn himself, and was gone. My soul failed when he spake. I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him, but he gave me no answer.

Solomon's Song, Chapter 5:2-6.

In this passage we see a picture of a wife who had prepared herself for bed. She has bathed and has dusted herself with sweet-smelling spices similar to present-day perfumes and bath powder. She has then put away her housecoat and is lounging around in her frilliest nightwear.

A knock comes at the door. Her husband who has been busy working in the fields, or has been away on business, arrives home tired, dirty, and hungry. He calls to his wife to let him in. She loves her husband but she hesitates. She is so very comfortable. It's too much trouble to get her housecoat from its hanger. Also she never could remember not to toss her house slippers across the floor. If she has to cross the floor, she will have to wash her

feet again. She hesitates at the thought of how inconvenient it is to get up to open the door for her husband, but love overcomes her hesitancy. She finally opens the door to find her husband gone. She dresses (later verses reveal) and goes in search of her husband but can find him nowhere.

Could this not also be a picture of our attitude toward Christ? He calls to us. We wish to follow Him, but we enjoy what we are doing at the time. We are willing to go with Him if He will only wait until our favorite T. V. program is off the air. When we are ready for Christ, we find Him gone. We look for Him diligently, but He is not to be found.

THE THANKFUL HEART

If one should give me a dish of sand, and tell me that there were particles of iron in it, I might look for them with my eyes and search for them with my clumsy fingers, and be unable to detect them; but let me take a magnet and sweep through it, and how it would draw to itself the most invisible particles by the mere power of attraction!

The unthankful heart, like my finger in the sand, discovers no mercies; but let the thankful heart sweep through the day; as the magnet finds the iron, so it will find in every hour some heavenly blessings. Only the iron in God's sand is gold!—*Henry Ward Beecher*

A CLOSING THOUGHT

*Did you ever stop to think
What makes a day seem bright?
It isn't just the bright sunshine,
Though, of course, that helps, all
right.
It's not just meeting friends you like,
Exchanging news and jokes;
No, sir, it's the little thoughtful
things
You've done for other folks.*

—*Clara Holm.*

BEAUTIFUL AGE

There are so many ugly things
Crowding along life's way—
As gossip, hatred, envy, strife,
Deceit and quarrelings; nay,
I cannot let my youth be spoiled
By them, for well I know
That each day of my earlier life
Is what old age will show.
I'd much prefer to gentle be
Than quoted as a sage.
It takes a lifetime of kind thoughts
To make a sweet old age.

—*Ruth Smeltzer*

Teen

Guidelines

God's Rule of Hygiene

By Ken Knoll

In this ultra-modern world, we hear many warnings against such social atrocities as bad breath, body odor, yellow teeth and dirty clothes. Along with these warnings there are many hygienics recommended as solutions: for bad breath there are hundreds of mouth washes or toothpastes that will obliterate any threat; for body odor the public is urged to use a brand-name deodorant that "won't wear off as the day wears on"; for dirty clothes we are told to use an amazing triple-strength detergent to make them clean, fresh, and acceptable.

But what about the cleansing of our lives spiritually? Just as the body needs to be clean physically, so our souls need to be cleansed spiritually from the dirt of sin. What "detergents" can you use for this?

The Bible says, "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word" (Psalm

119:9). This cleansing comes by studying the Word of God and following the guides therein that lead to spiritual purification. This scriptural examination does not come merely from listening to someone quote verses to us, but comes by personal examination of the Word and then making sincere application in our lives.

There are many problems to hinder us from cleansing our ways. One great problem among young people is lack of participation in a daily program of Bible study. This is due, in part, to television which is becoming a real hindrance in the cleansing of our lives, having priority over our homework. Bible study, eating, and even sleeping. When it is time for bed, the television is turned off and too often its viewers go directly to bed with no thought of God and what He has done for them.

These people who are slothful in their daily Bible study like to

use the excuse that the Bible is too complex and cannot be understood. True, there are mysteries of God in the scriptures, but there will be no problem in understanding God's basic laws and lessons if we study knowing that the Spirit of God will guide us into all truth. A good rule to use to comprehend the mysteries is to begin your study on your knees—and later end it on your knees. At the beginning, pray that God will help you to see and understand the truth. At the end, pray that God will help you to accept that truth which has been revealed. *This is the cleansing process.*

In order to be clean and acceptable in God's society of followers, we must use the Cleanser to purify our hearts. God does not judge by the outside decor of a person, but He looks upon the heart. In order to be approved in carnal society, we need only to look and act like a good, moral individual, but the Bible says in 2 Timothy 2:15 that we must "study to shew ourselves approved unto God. . ."

The Christian young person will make daily Bible study a regular part of his life. For those who do not practice this spiritual refreshing, great blessings are being missed.

In consecrated Bible study, there are times when one finds a passage of scripture that seems to be written with his specific situation in mind. One time in my life I was bothered by a serious problem and as I was

seeking God's guidance in the Bible, I came to a scripture which I feel was given to me by God. It not only offered me an answer to my problem, but it increased my faith in God. By reading His Word, I found strength which helped me overcome.

Young people, if you are not in a program of daily, personal Bible study, determine that you will take time to read and study the Word of God. Then if you need some place to begin, start with the 2T4G program and keep active in it.

After we take a bath, we get dirty again and need another bath. So it is in the life of a Christian. Reading the Bible just

While detergents, mouth washes, toothpastes, and deodorants are recommended for the body, there is only one thing that will cleanse us spiritually. That is the study of God's Word.

ARE YOU USING IT?

THE REAL TEST

THE REAL test of the sermon is not measured by the number of compliments registered with the preacher at the exit following the benediction. The ultimate test is the degree of change the delivered message helps to bring about in the lives of the hearers.

once will not cleanse us. It takes daily cleansing to make and keep us pure.

—Christian Advocate

This is not a mere child's story. It points out to each of us the inconsistency between our giving of thanks and the gratitude we expect others to express to us.

Showing Thankfulness

By Elizabeth K. Austin

"I'm never going to say my prayers again," announced Sally one night as mother was tucking her in bed. "It takes such a lot of time to kneel by my bed every night; in summer it's too hot, and in winter it's cold. What difference does it make anyway? I will have that much longer to play the piano or to read my book before I get ready for bed. Then in the morning I won't have to get up early to read my Bible and pray. I can sleep that much longer. So there!"

Sally was always a thoughtful girl, and loved to do little kind deeds for every one. There was no school the next day, and as mother was going to a very important meeting, Sally got up early, rushed downstairs, helped with the breakfast, then did the dishes, and helped mother get ready so she could ride downtown with daddy and not have to walk later.

After the work was cleared away, Sally thought she would like to have a surprise for mother when she returned. There was nothing mother enjoyed more than a bouquet of pretty wild flowers. Yes, Sally had just about enough time to get the flowers and return before mother reached home. Deep into the woods and swamp Sally went, selecting the nicest

blossoms, and to her surprise on the way home she discovered a field abloom with those handsome blue fringed gentians which were mother's special favorite. But there was never a word of praise or thankfulness from mother as Sally presented her surprise.

"I'll have daddy's slippers, reading jacket, and chair all in 'apple-pie' order when he gets through his supper to use them," thought Sally. "I know just what corner of the room he likes best." But there was not even a remark about her thoughtfulness as daddy slipped into his jacket and slippers.

This was about all Sally could stand, and she burst into tears, and to her surprise daddy and mother did not even notice her. Soon she shrieked, "What's the matter with everybody? I've tried just as hard to make you happy all day as I could, and not even a 'Thank You' or a word of praise about it."

"But, of course, I've appreciated all the help you've been to me, and I have so enjoyed the flowers," broke in mother.

"Well, why didn't you say so?" moaned Sally, "Now my heart is almost broken."

(Continued on page 30)

Family Financing

A Message to Newlyweds . . .

Lloyd C. Clark



Family Financing should begin before the wedding bells ring! No marriage vows should be taken until the couple has considered the "how" and the "why" of the family budget. Love is wonderful—but it is not the stuff that pays the creditors. The Christian couple is no less involved in the ways of family financing than any other people. The Christian should be a better business man. As Christians, our finances should bear no mark of strain on the family's home life. An understanding before marriage will help much in

financial adjustment in the early months of the new home.

This brief discussion takes life as we find it among the great mass of working men and from the materialistic point as it is lived in our modern consumer credit world. We hope, by this method, to warn of some of the dangers, offer alternatives, and encourage the Christian to seek a spiritual approach to his own personal problems in the whirl of our modern wants.

To demand that a Christian couple consider the family finances before marriage may be dogmatic. I mean it to be so. I believe also that the position of the church should encourage our young people to follow this philosophy. I speak this from a deep feeling gained from listening to and counseling with insolvent families and broken homes; from attempting to reconstruct the finances of bankrupt families and divorced couples of our Credit Union membership. It is so evident that the basic cause of most of these problems is MONEY. The key problem that follows is, again, MONEY. This is why I make such a strong issue for pre-marital financial understanding with careful counseling when either or both are uncertain.

Every young couple should talk over their feelings about future financing even before the engagement. The Christian young man must be realistic, honest and secure in this matter as the responsible head of his house if he wants security and freedom from financial tensions. This subject can be discussed on several dates along with many other subjects vital to the future home. A list of such subjects can be found in any good book on Marriage and the Home.

Money flows freely today as a boy attempts to win his love. Little does he realize that true love is not purchased. She should ask, "Will he continue this pattern of the free use of cash after marriage?"

In turn the girl is generally a spender. Her interest is in shoes, dresses, hair and hats. He should think and perhaps find out, "Can she adjust to a more limited wardrobe? Can I afford all these items on my income?"

Whether money is plentiful or restricted, the same questions are involved. Whatever the strength or weakness, both MUST join in making 'Money Management Plans' for the new home. This should be done prior to the final pronouncement at the altar. With less than this consideration, they could be building on the sands. In the new home, they become one and they will live from the one budget. A trite saying is so true: "Together we stand, divided we fall."

Who will sign the checks is not so important as how the checks are to be spent. The family is a business with good communication between the heads of the company. To go at it alone will bring a crash landing. On the other hand, it is true that some people cannot properly care for money. In such a case, one companion should take over by a common agreement. However, all new plans involving large cash outlays should be agreeable to both members.

Before the two are pronounced man and wife, they should agree *not to live beyond their income*. This is such an important factor in our day of consumer credit. We have spoken of this already. This approach to the finances of a new home should be added to the time-honored vows. At least it would add a new touch of reality to this important step and one so vital in this credit-crazed society.

It is also very important that an income is assured before the bells ring. I mean, the future husband should have a secure job or some means of financial security until he is prepared for that future position. The writer has known several cases where there has been no visible income prior to marriage—and very little was seen after marriage. We can hardly count it a Christian Marriage where a man makes no plans to support or provide for the new home.

(Continued on page 31)

Foreign Correspondence

By John Lemley

The foreign work has always held special meaning for me and I praise God for this opportunity to serve as foreign correspondent for the Youth Department. Because it has been quite a while since a foreign report has been a regular feature in AIM, it would be well to review some of the goals, purposes, and past accomplishments of this segment of God's work:

One important purpose of this work is to offer our services to the foreign groups at all times. We can best do this through consecrated prayer efforts on their behalf. However, we do want to help in the material aspect of the work whenever possible. In the past, the FYCers in America have sent a bicycle, camera, typewriter, Bibles, and AIM subscriptions to youth groups in other countries. Being able to help each other materially as well as spiritually is very important to the progress of our churches abroad.

Another aspect of this work is to encourage one another spiritually through pen pal correspondence. During the past month, four young people from three different countries have written asking for a pen pal. The Youth Department has corresponded with young people in the Churches of God in Mexico, Jamaica, Trinidad, Central America, India, Germany, the Philippines, and England, with our most active correspondence at present with the FYC in London, England. God granted me the privilege of being with the FYC in London this summer. Their enthusiasm and dedication was very inspirational to me. This type of inner burning desire to do all possible in helping to spread the Gospel around the world is what I would like to see become contagious among the FYCers in every country. *It can be done to a great extent by active pen pal communication. This is one method by which we can learn new ideas and gather new enthusiasm for God's work.*

If the young people of the Church of God will unite together, giving encouragement, spiritual assistance, and helpful services to our brethren across the seas, nothing will be able to stop this forward movement. Christ said: "Upon this Rock (referring to Himself) I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." I am sure that Christ could also have said, "Upon this Rock I will build my youth group" for upon us hinges the future of the Church of God. Let us praise God for the promise

John Lemley,

Foreign Correspondent



The foreign work of the Young People's Department of the Church of God is on the move again! John Lemley, a junior at Midwest Bible College, has been appointed Foreign Correspondent for the Department.

Much has already been done to increase our efficiency in our missions work. Last summer, John had the privilege of spending some time in England and we are sure his experiences will be valuable in his work as Foreign Correspondent.

It is with pleasure that the Young People's Department along with Brother Lemley offers its services to you in Youth Foreign Missions.

Dale G. Lawson
National FYC Chairman

that nothing shall prevail against us. But, in order to have full claim to this promise it is of utmost importance that we are united.

In the Bible, unity among members seems to have been one of the primary reasons for answered prayer and growth. In Acts 12:12 many were gathered together in prayer and Peter was miraculously freed from prison as a result. Acts 2:1 tells of the disciples being in one accord when they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. When those at the church in Antioch prayed and fasted, the Lord revealed who were to be sent as missionaries (Acts 13:1-3). When

(Continued on page 31)

Thanks Be to God

By Lon Woodrum

WHILE DRIVING through a Kansas town, one man saw another in a stalled car. The first man, being at heart a good Samaritan, gave the unfortunate fellow a push. When the stalled car's engine started, the Samaritan got out of his car. The other driver took off, never looking back, but the bumpers of the two cars were locked and the kindly man's car was being towed swiftly away. The Samaritan ran after the cars, shouting

loudly. A bump in the street unhooked the cars, and the Samaritan's crashed into a parked auto. The damage was four hundred seventy-five dollars. The stranger who had been aided was not located.

At times it might appear that there are more "takers" in this world than "givers." The Scriptures promise that it is more blessed to give than to receive, but apparently some folk would rather be receivers and go un-blessed!

A quick, sad little tale is tucked away in the Book of Ecclesiastes. "There was a little city, and few men within it; and there came a great king against it, and besieged it, and built great bulwarks against it: now there was found in it a poor wise man, and he by his wisdom delivered the city."

So the poverty-beaten man with the good sense became a big hero. He was feted and honored and made the mayor of the town. Is that what you think? That is not what happened at all. The scribe in Ecclesiastes climaxes his little story with the sad words, "No man remembered that same poor man."

Ingratitude, said William Shakespeare, is worse than drunkenness and the other multitudinous ills that bedevil mankind. But of all man's ungratefulness, the worst is his thanklessness toward God. A short, heart-lashing line bursts from Hosea's pen that lingers through the centuries, "Israel hath forgotten his Maker."

The opening chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans gives us a dreadful picture of ungodly men. They changed God's truth into a lie. They made God Himself seem as an earthly brute. They committed unmentionable iniquities and were "full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity." They hated God in their black pride. They had a genius for inventing evil. They violated all trusts, broke all agreements. They were without tenderness, without mercy. In this unholy picture one line stands forth, "When they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful." Ingratitude is found in the same category with the most despicable crimes.

Many of us are familiar with the story of the Good Samaritan in the Gospel of Luke. But not so many remember that other Samaritan in the same book whose faith was followed by great thankfulness. In this poignant report ten lepers were healed by Jesus. Nine walked off without a backward glance, not one of them returning to show appreciation for their good fortune. Only one came back. He returned and dropped down, loudly glorifying God. The Bible says, "He fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks." Then follows a sharp, ironic sentence, "And he was a Samaritan."

The Samaritans were looked upon narrowly in that part of the world. Yet Jesus cried, "Where are the nine? They are

not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger."

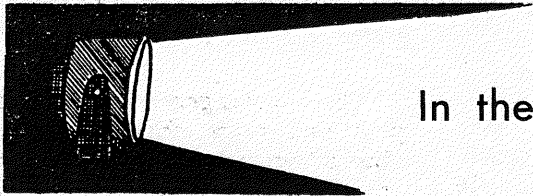
"This stranger!" The man who had more character than nine others who were evidently not "strangers." But perhaps they *were* strangers and strangers to one of the noblest virtues on earth; strangers to thanksgiving, aliens to gratitude.

Run through the epistle of the New Testament and see what a spirit of gratitude flows through them. Something like a refrain seems to sing from the pens of those old scribes, "Thanks be unto God!" They are found praising Heaven for all gifts; they break forth in symphonic praise, "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

There was something they could never forget: the fact of Christ. They were like that certain leper reported by Mark who found his affliction banished under the touch of the Master; and "he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter."

To those primitive Christians, Jesus was the polestar of their lives. Their gratitude toward Him could not be expressed in prose, but kept leaping up into poetry. They couldn't think of Calvary and not be stirred deeply. They thought about how meaningless their lives had been and how they had found real meaning for them through Him, and they began to make music.

(Continued on page 20)



In the Spotlight

Shawnee, Okla. F.Y.C.

A "tacky" party: 1st row: Darla Mauldin, Ruth Mayhugh, Cindy Scott, Donna Sturgill, Mark Kaniady (seated), Reta Washburn; 2nd row: Keith Washburn, Mike Mauldin, Gee Guillian, Everett Mayhugh, Deborah Scott.



The Mid-Way FYC, Shawnee, Oklahoma, was organized two years ago. We have undertaken many projects such as: rummage sales, cleaning the church, keeping the church lawn mowed in the summer, white elephant sale, taking charge of the worship hour.

We have our business meeting each month and plan what we will have for projects during the month. We also try to have a social each month. During the summer months we have hayrides, wiener roasts, hamburger fries, ice cream parties. In winter we have skating parties, pizza parties, "tacky" parties, and wiener roasts in the homes.

During this year we have carried on various programs. We have received a Silver Mark of Merit Award for the past two years and are striving for a better one this year. The FYC purchased drapes for the new church parsonage. The local church sponsored a "Mexican Dinner" in the spring and the FYC helped in this. Both boys and girls served. The girls were dressed in accordance with the theme for the dinner.

In April our group hosted a special weekend for all state FYC members. We had about 30 young people. Elder Kenneth Lawson of San Antonio, was our guest speaker. Our theme was "It's a Wonderful, Wonderful

Life." All-day services were held on the Sabbath with a hayride and wiener roast Saturday night and horseback riding Sunday. Much good fellowship was enjoyed in all the activities.

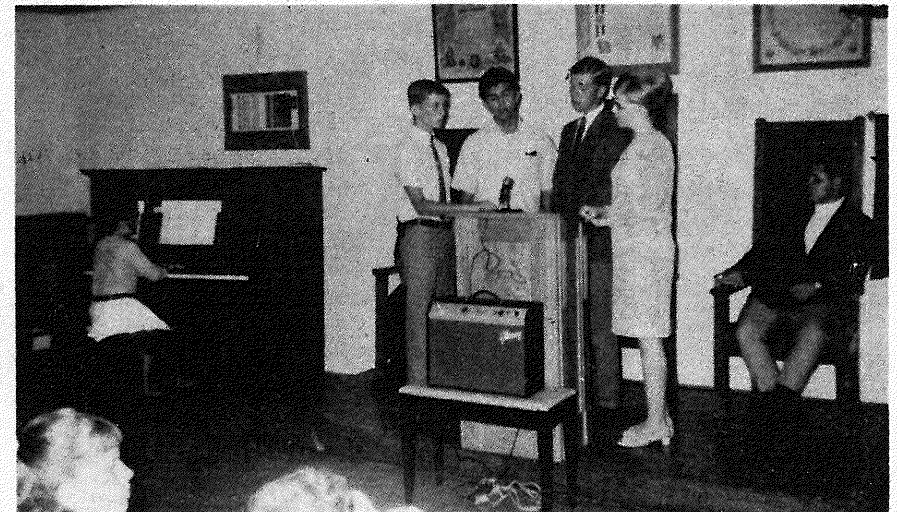
On July 13-14 the local FYC group along with other adults traveled to Arlington, Texas, for an outing. A total of 37 went on the trip. Sunday night the group presented a special program for the Church of God (7th Day) in Arlington, Texas. We presented an FYC program of special music and poems for the church there. Keith Washburn was the emcee. A choir number was presented from the entire group. The local group was greatly blessed in presenting this program and it was felt that the Arlington Church enjoyed it very much. On Monday, the 14th, the group visited Six Flags Over Texas, a recreational park, for a very good outing.

Our group visits a local nursing

home once a month and presents a program of singing. They visit the patients; and the elderly people certainly enjoy it. We are blessed with much talent among our young people here. Several can play the piano and present special singing. We also have organists among them. They are of great help in the local service.

This summer we have enjoyed the presence of Areli Garcia from Mexico City, Mexico. She was visiting the Padilla family and the young people have certainly enjoyed her in their activities.

We are proud of the fact that our local officers are also included in the Oklahoma FYC Officers. Keith Washburn, our local chairman, is state FYC chairman and Deborah Scott, local sec.-treas. is also state sec.-treas. Local officers were recently elected and Bernice Padilla was elected chairman; however, she moved to California and



Quartet singing in the special program presented at the Arlington Church: Mike Mauldin, Reuben Zaragoza, Keith Washburn, Deborah Scott.

Keith Washburn became chairman. Reta Washburn is assistant sec.-treas.

The local group has also included a group of younger ones—ages 10 to 12. We are helping them get started in order that they may be ready when

they become of age to join the National FYC. Activities are planned for them and they help in local programs as they can. The FYC feels this is a good way to help them be ready to take their place later.



This picture was taken of the group which presented the program at the Arlington, Texas, Church. 1st Row: Left to Right: Cindy Scott, Ruth Mayhugh, Darla Mauldin, Everett Mayhugh. 2nd Row: Reta Washburn, Dave Pruitt, Mike Mauldin, Gee Gilliam. 3rd Row: Deborah Scott, Reuben Saragoza, Keith Washburn, Sue Kanady, J. C. Kanady.

THANKS BE TO GOD

(Continued from page 17)

They had been lost and were found. They had been dead and were alive. Thirsty, they had found drink; hungry, they had sat down at a banquet. Nothing had ever happened to them, nothing would ever happen to them, as wonderful by half as this thing that had happened. Christ, by His Cross, had made them heirs of God. They were really alive now, alive unto the Highest, and they would never die! It was the doing of God, and it was marvelous in their eyes. They could understand the words of an ancient singer, "Praise ye the Lord. Praise the

Lord, O my soul. While I live I will praise the Lord: I will sing unto my God while I have any being!"

Gratitude is a high virtue. It cannot be left out of the Christian faith. Thanksgiving belongs in the believing heart. The bugle-voice of the mighty Apostle from Tarsus leads the redeemed millions across the ages, singing, "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift... Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."—*The War Cry*

No Christian has so little from Christ but there is ground for praise, nor so much but that he has need of prayer.

Editorial

A GRATITUDE ATTITUDE

Among the good habits which a Mother helps her child to form is that of saying "thank-you." In our adolescent and adult years we continue the good habit of saying "thank you" at the appropriate time. Because it is a habit, the "thank you" at times is spontaneous and almost absent-minded. At other times, it expresses real heartfelt gratitude.

Sometimes a hearty "thanksalot" or "thanksamillion" may not portray nearly the gratitude that a very simple, heartfelt "thank you" does. Likewise, our thanks to God is not measured by what we say alone, but by our genuine attitude of gratitude. It's the living of thanks—not just the giving of thanks.

Have you ever received a note of thanks which warmed your heart because of its sincerity? While we do not sit around waiting for thanks, each of us has experienced the joy a real expression of gratitude brings (perhaps because it helps us realize the joy we were privileged to help bring to another.)

For any of us, it's quite simple to enumerate many, everyday reasons for being thankful; but if our general attitude is that of discontent, our talk about thankfulness is quite meaningless.

"Godliness with contentment is great gain," Paul observed in his epistle to Timothy (1 Timothy 6:6). Gratitude and contentment, it would seem, must go hand in hand. Can you conceive that a truly thankful heart could be had by a discontented person? Conversely, could a truly contented person have an ungrateful heart?

How is your contentment rating? Would you score very high in answering questions like: Do I complain quite frequently? Do I often compare my plight with that of others I feel are more fortunate than I? Does the lack of material things I desire cause me unhappiness?

In a more positive vein, we should ask the question, While having a healthy desire for things to be better, am I able to accept things as they are, contentedly working and trusting for improvement? I hope that we as Christians can place a big fat YES in answer to this last question.

A motto which I have pinned on my kitchen bulletin board says, "What a different world this would be if people magnified their blessings the way they do their troubles."

I Planted a

Seed

By Evelyn Casselman



I planted a seed. I know I did. As far as I'm concerned I think it was good. But I don't *really* know because not everyone reacts the same. All day long I plant seeds of moral character. I do this—that is, drop those little seeds of my characteristics—by what I say, by what I do and most assuredly by my attitude in a given situation.

Seeds are like impressions. Sowing a seed is like leaving an impression. For example, a dirty look, a snide remark, giving the cold shoulder, telling a half truth, etc., will certainly leave an impression. Need I say what kind? We pass judgment upon ourselves. This impression is like the seed in that a situation develops and grows. The result could be much misunderstanding, strife and even bad feelings enough to become hate. But, you see, the seed of hate itself was not planted—just that little, tiny

speck of, shall we say, “being human”—but look what it grew into!

An acorn is a seed, but when I plant an acorn, I don't get acorns. I get a great big oak tree. Therefore, the seeds I plant from morning until night can be ever so tiny in size and quality, but the growth and end result can be tremendously great in the life of a human being—one of almighty God's creation.

Many times a snide remark is supposed to be just kidding—but is it? We never know how it will be taken or who might overhear the remark, not knowing all the circumstances or just exactly what the situation was. Nevertheless, the remark was made and it was heard. I planted a seed.

What might be happening to that seed? For instance, did it find fertile ground? Is it taking root? Is it receiving the rain

and moisture of offense and criticism, of condemnation, doubt and confusion? Perhaps after the seed develops far enough, unfriendliness and even rebellion will be evident. On and on it grows, even to the extent that, one day, no longer do we see that person in church. The seed became *unbelief*. How terrible if that were to happen!

In regard to the person who overheard, I didn't know that I planted a seed, but that doesn't change the fact that I did plant one. I left some kind of impression. It would be swell if I knew the person would shrug his shoulders, utter a little laugh, thinking to himself “what a sense of humor” and go on his way. It wouldn't be so swell if the seed I “kiddingly” planted grew into an ugly, grotesque situation causing this person serious emotional and spiritual discomfort. I'd be a stumbling block; so I must remember and practice to do good things with the good qualities with which the Almighty God has blessed me.

I planted a seed. Which one?

There are many, many seeds that are immoral and bad. To list a few, there is the seed of doubt—the opposite being faith, trust and belief. There is the seed of suspicion—the opposite being assurance and confidence. There is the seed of greediness—which is overcome by being generous and unselfish. Frustration is an evil kind of seed that is best dealt with by cooperation and helping to attain a pur-

pose and goal, rather than hinder it.

Then there is dissent—the opposite is to be agreeable, with a desire for unity and love. The word dissent is one we are seeing in the newspapers a lot these days. What is dissent? It means to disagree in opinion, discord and nonconformity. Nonconformity is all around us. The world seems to be saying, “Who wants to conform—especially to the Word of God—anyway?” If there were conformity to the Bible, a person couldn't have his own opinion. So he becomes a dissenter. Seeds of dissent are very easily disseminated or spread around. After all, we are entitled to our opinion—so we say. Let's be careful.

Now, so as to be able to know for sure that the seeds we plant are always good and favorable, what should we do? How can we be prepared?

1. *Recognize that you are on earth for a purpose—to do the will of God.*
2. *Be in the right relationship with the Heavenly Father, know His Son Jesus Christ as your Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit to teach and guide you.*
3. *Meditate and pray without ceasing.*
4. *Be in the attitude of a peaceful, loving and thankful person.*
5. *Feel alive in Christ with a vision of Glory—with clear-sightedness.*

(Continued on page 31)

Together

by Chester Shuler

DORIS DAVIS RAISED a tear-stained face and pointed to the motto which hung on the living room wall. "I know that's from the Bible," she said to her older brother James. "But if what I'm passing through is *for good*, I just can't figure it out!"

James closed his book and gazed at the green-and-red motto. "All things work together for good to them that love God," he read aloud. "I believe I know how you feel, Sis," he said slowly.

"Nevertheless, I'm sure the motto is true. I can't explain it very clearly, but—" He leaped up and strode to the window. "Well! We're fortunate. Here comes Isabelle, and if anyone can explain the Bible, it's that young lady. She's turning in at our gate, too."

Doris hastily mopped her tears and began tidying the disordered room. "Oh, dear, and she's always so neat and trim. But I suppose nurses are always like that—"

"A nurse such as you intend to be," grinned James. "And I hope you'll be as pretty and as—"

A well-aimed pillow to his jaw silenced him, while Doris hurried to admit their visitor, who was several years her elder.

The room seemed brighter with Isabelle in it, and after a

bit of merry chatter, Doris got around to asking her about the motto.

"You perhaps would care to tell me something about your trials, Doris," the young nurse suggested. "If so and I can be of help, I'd be delighted."

Doris needed no urging. It seemed good to tell her troubles to one with a sympathetic attitude. "And," she concluded, "if all *those* things I've been going through are for my *good*, well—"

Isabelle was thoughtful for a moment as she breathed a little prayer for guidance. "You do have trials," she sympathized. "I believe that I can imagine how difficult some of those things are to endure."

"And I thought," Doris almost wailed, "that if I'd become

a Christian everything would turn out so *wonderful!*"

JAMES BROKE THE silence which followed. "I told Doris that if anyone could help her understand that motto, it would be you, Isabelle."

"Thanks," she said. "Last winter I had a patient who was in great pain. His doctor handed me a prescription. He told the patient that the medicine would relieve his suffering. At the pharmacy I waited while the attendant compounded several ingredients. No *one* of those drugs could have helped my patient, but when he took the combination, they *worked together* to relieve his pain, and did so."

Doris looked interested, but puzzled. "I don't quite see—"

Isabelle smiled. "My point is, Doris, that the man believed his physician when told that the medicine would relieve his pain. But while those ingredients were being compounded, his pain continued. If his faith in the doctor became weak at any one time, it must have been then. Now let us read the motto again. See it says, 'all things work *together* for good,' does it not?"

Doris nodded slowly. "Yes, I guess I see what you mean. It's not just this thing or that, but all the things mixed together that work for our good. Is that the idea?"

The nurse nodded.

James, beaming with pride and admiration, interrupted, "See, Sis? Didn't I tell you Isa-

belle could straighten this out, and—"

The nurse smiled at handsome James but raised a warning finger. "You probably are undergoing a trial of your faith, Doris. But let us not forget that while this testing is in progress our loving Father in heaven is 'mixing' or 'compounding' things in exactly the right way. Eventually, perhaps long afterward, you will be able to see more clearly *how these* 'all things' worked out for your ultimate good. The Bible says that in this life we 'see through a glass darkly.' And so we must accept many things on faith until we can see more clearly."

"I understand better now, Isabelle," said Doris. "Thanks a lot. But honestly, this experience is, well—pretty awful. It's hard to believe now that it ever can work out for my good."

"It's a bitter cost for my little sis," James sympathized. "I really feel sorry for her. But I know she will win out yet."

"She will," Isabelle agreed confidently. "She has grit. My father tells that when he was a small boy in the country an old family doctor always gave him such bitter medicine when he was sick. When he'd make a wry face, the doctor would laugh and say that if a medicine wasn't bitter it wasn't any good. I suppose it's like that with our lives sometimes. Personally, I've learned to rely on the Lord for strength, but I think that the medical illustration fits this sit-

(Continued on page 30)

MINUTEMAN

The Overcoming Life

by Carol Millican

"A Will to Work . . ."

Last month we saw how important it is that we learn to wait patiently upon the Lord, taking time to seek His guidance in our everyday affairs. Once we have committed a day to the Lord, we are, according to the scriptures, to put our whole selves into the work that we do.

We know that the Bible is not "sloth" in its condemnation of "slothfulness" or laziness. We especially remember the parable as a "wicked and slothful servant" (Matthew 25:26). Romans 12:11 admonishes us not to be slothful in our business affairs. Many other examples could be given from the Bible of how God disdains laziness; some outstanding ones are included in this month's verses.

On the positive side, though, the Bible also has much to say in commendation of the person who is "industrious" or "fervent in spirit" or a willing worker. The word *industrious* is found only once in the Bible (that I can find), but it is significant nevertheless; it is found in 1 Kings 1:28. Here we read how the quality of being a hard and willing worker won for Jeroboam the special recognition of the great King Solomon. In Acts 18 we read about Apollos who because of his "ferventness of spirit" was able to win others to the cause of Jesus Christ (Acts 18:28). Other examples are endless—most men who achieve greatness possess this quality of being willing to work hard and put their "all" into their work.

Ecclesiastes 9:10

John 9:4

Hebrews 6:11

Hebrews 6:12

Proverbs 18:9

Proverbs 24:33

Proverbs 24:34

2 Chronicles 31:21

A good descriptive term that we could use today for what we are talking about is "enthusiasm." This quality is considered so important that there is a book on the subject that has become a best seller—*Enthusiasm Makes the Difference* by Norman Vincent Peale. I am reading the book and I highly recommend it.

We as Christians should be the most enthusiastic people alive! For we have the noblest of all ambitions—to reach the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as the Jews had a great "mind to work" when they were building the wall around their city (Nehemiah 4:6), so we should have an even greater mind to work because of the great things promised us.

I have included 2 Chronicles 31:21 in our list of memory verses for a special reason—Hezekiah should be an example to all of us today—whatever we do we are doing for the Lord and therefore we need to put our whole hearts into our work as Hezekiah did—not only our hearts but our whole beings!

Since next month will be the last of this series on the overcoming life, there will be a short quiz on the verses learned since May.

GRATITUDE

How intimately life has entwined others about our lives that we may be supported by their strength, and they by ours! What if nobody cared, when we were helpless young ones, to shelter us from the raw edge of elemental forces!

What if nobody cared to call us friends in those plastic years of youthfulness!

What if nobody cared when we return at nightfall, worn and frayed by the cares of the daily toil!

What if nobody cared when thieving years rob us of youth, health, substance, and security!

What if nobody cared when we slip out into the Silence, and to a nameless pit!

What if nobody cared to enfold our dear ones in comforting arms when we've made the twilight voyage!

Therefore, since we do care, let us "do unto others as we would that others do unto us." Thus shall our thanksgiving merge into thanksgiving, transforming the discharge of commonplace duties into a blessed sacrament, whereby we learn to read the august meaning of life by the light of high hours.

—SUNSHINE

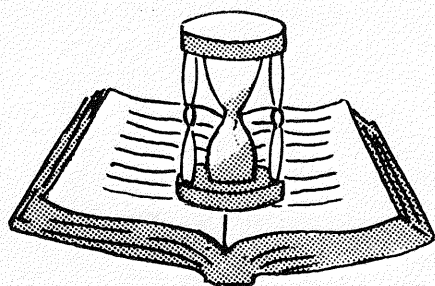
2T4G

Take

Time

For

God



By Kathleen Roche

A small lad was once given a cucumber in a bottle. The neck of the bottle was small—and the cucumber large. The more he looked at it, the more he wondered how it got in there. Then, while he was out in the garden one day, he happened to notice a bottle that had been slipped over a little green pickle. Then he understood. The cucumber had grown inside the bottle.

Bad habits are like the cucumber in the bottle. If we grow into them while we are young, it is pretty difficult to slip out of them. We must take care, then, to begin now to build good habits.

One of the best habits a person can develop is that of daily prayer and study of God's Word. Luke commended the noble Bereans because they "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

Through prayer and diligent Bible study we grow to be stronger Christians. These times with God will hold real meaning in our lives and it will be just as unlikely that we will slip out of the habit as the big, fat cucumber would slip out of the bottle it had grown in. But if we neglect to drink of the "sincere milk of the Word, that

Date	Chapter
Nov. 15	2 Sam. 22
Nov. 16	2 Sam. 23
Nov. 17	2 Sam. 24
Nov. 18	1 Kings 1
Nov. 19	1 Kings 2
Nov. 20	1 Kings 3
Nov. 21	1 Kings 4
Nov. 22	1 Kings 5
Nov. 23	1 Kings 6
Nov. 24	1 Kings 7
Nov. 25	1 Kings 8
Nov. 26	1 Kings 9
Nov. 27	1 Kings 10
Nov. 28	1 Kings 11
Nov. 29	1 Kings 12
Nov. 30	1 Kings 13

(we) may grow thereby" (1 Peter 2:2), it is highly possible that we will be shriveled up Christians and slip out of good habits as easily as the little green pickle slipped in through the neck of the bottle.

Habit is a cable; we weave a thread of it every day, and at last we cannot break it.

Dec. 1	1 Kings 14	Dec. 8	1 Kings 21
Dec. 2	1 Kings 15	Dec. 9	1 Kings 22
Dec. 3	1 Kings 16	Dec. 10	2 Kings 1
Dec. 4	1 Kings 17	Dec. 11	2 Kings 2
Dec. 5	1 Kings 18	Dec. 12	2 Kings 3
Dec. 6	1 Kings 19	Dec. 13	2 Kings 4
Dec. 7	1 Kings 20	Dec. 14	2 Kings 5

FROM THE AFRICAN PULPIT

As the father of a large family, a certain African pastor delighted to describe the care with which the Heavenly Father leads His little ones in their Heavenward steps.

"A father plays with his little child," he said one day, moving to the edge of the low platform in the mud-brick chapel that was filled with an attentive congregation of black-skinned men and women and children. "He tosses him up in the air like this—"

The pastor's arms were flung upward in a gesture toward the cool thatch where thin-legged wasps, in graceful flight, were busy on a hundred insect errands. One could almost hear the imaginary youngster's squeal of delight as the pastor pretended to catch him on his downward fall.

"But he isn't afraid. He laughs, for he knows the father's arms are there to catch him. When he is on his feet again, he just lifts his hands and coaxes, 'Father, do it more.' Again the father throws him up, and so the game goes on. But after a time he says, 'You're getting tired. We'll rest a while, my child.'"

The pastor's hand reached out as though to pat a woolly head. His stern black face was softened by a smile.

"God tosses us about sometimes to make us strong," he said, "but we need not be afraid. His arms are there to catch us too. And when He knows that we have passed His test, He sets us gently down and says, 'We'll rest a while, My child.'"—Inland Africa.

TOGETHER

(Continued from page 25)

uation rather aptly.

"If this is a test, I do hope I may prove equal to it." Doris said. "I want to trust the Lord, and—"

"The apostle Peter writes about the 'trial of faith.' Everything in this world which may have to stand a strain is carefully tested and prepared beforehand. So I thank God for testing my faith sometimes to make sure that I shall react properly when a real crisis comes." The nurse hesitated, then added, "Shall we not tell the Lord Jesus all about your problems, Doris?"

When they had prayed Doris said, "Thanks, Isabelle. I feel better now. Hadn't ever thought about that 'together' part of the motto. I was too busy thinking that since I had become a Christian things should have worked out for my comfort and pleasure. I suppose I was foolish—and very selfish."

"All of us have similar testings, Doris. It's only when we've come to understand something of how wisely and kindly God works for our best that we can accept some of our present difficulties with a proper Christian attitude. And now, I must run along."

"Thanks for stopping in," Doris said. "That's been one thing that has worked out for my best, I'm sure," she added brightly.

"As if," chuckled James, "I

hadn't a thing to do with her coming." Then turning to Isabelle, he beckoned, "And now, my fair one, with your gracious permission let us get started on our hike into the country."

"I might have known you had something to do with this," laughed Doris. "I suppose it is an example of how things work out for *your* good."

Watching them walk away the girl muttered, "Together. Some day *they'll* work together—for the Lord. Doctor and nurse."

—Lighted Pathway

SHOWING THANKFULNESS

(Continued from page 11)

"I didn't suppose you wanted me to," replied mother. "Last night you said you were not going to say your prayers any more, and God is all the time doing things for you and sending you blessings, so I thought you would not expect anyone to say 'Thank you' to you, no matter how helpful or kind you were."

"I guess I have learned my lesson all right. You will not have to remind me of it again, mother. I will not be unfair to God again and I will never forget Him as long as I live."

—Sabbath Recorder

Go to church and spend a restful hour with God and let Him refresh your body and soul.

* * * *

False words are not only evil in themselves, but they infect the soul with evil.—Socrates.

I PLANTED A SEED

(Continued from page 23)

6. *Be a joyful witness for Jesus—I mean really want to witness.*
7. *Set spiritual goals that pay spiritual dividends.*
8. *Judge your motives.*
9. *Really care about what kind of seeds you plant.*
10. *Praise and glorify Almighty God always.*

MAKE ME STRONG

Make me strong, O Lord, I pray,
In Thy work from day to day;
In Thy truth and in Thy light,
Ever guide my steps aright.
And if it be, O Lord, I ask,
Let me lighten another's task.

—Beverly Nicholas in
"Sunshine"

* * *

Mere lip praise is never outlet
enough for grateful hearts when God
gives ability for other service also.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE (Continued from page 15)

God's people, young and old, are united together in one accord, His Spirit will use us in great ways. It is by disunity that we quench the Spirit and are oftentimes left out of God's blessings.

This is an earnest call for all the FYCers of the Church of God, the international church composed of people of many nations and languages, to join together in Christian charity, which is the bond of perfectness (Col. 3:14). Let us show a heartfelt interest in each other and let our light shine in every activity of our daily lives. Let's become aware of the problems, successes, joys and sorrows of our brothers and sisters in Christ everywhere and unite behind them in prayer.

Even though the devil is going about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour, we will be solidly united behind Christ so Satan will not be able to break our lines. Together we will push on to victory.

FAMILY FINANCING

(Continued on page 13)

Don't take for granted that your mate has the same ideas about spending money that you have. Don't let love carry you away from reality. The theory that everything will work out does not work out in this world of consumer credit. It works out best when you and the bride-to-be will sit down and count the cost lest you "start the house but have not to finish."

NOTE: "A Message to Newlyweds" will continue in the next issue with comments on A Place to Live; Furnishing the home; Rent, Buy or Build.



School Notes

MIDWEST BIBLE COLLEGE NEWS

Though at times a bit weary from lack of sleep we at Midwest Bible College are managing to hold regular classes, progress on the work at the college, and enjoy specially-planned activities as well.

On the evening of September 21, the upperclassmen gave a welcome party for the new students at the home of Dr. Carlin. After a short devotional service, everyone exhausted themselves playing several games of volleyball, basketball, and horseshoes. Later in the evening a hungry group gratefully lined up for ice cream, cookies, hot chocolate, and fruit nectar.

Midwest Bible College, along with the Stanberry Church, was well-represented in St. Joseph, Missouri, at their all-day meeting held on October 12. Worship services and Sabbath school classes filled the morning hours, after which a delicious, as well as varied, noon meal was served. During the afternoon, the young people presented a musical program, and various speakers presented some timely thoughts. After another good meal at supertime, an enjoyable social was held for the young people.

Six-thirty p.m. on October 19

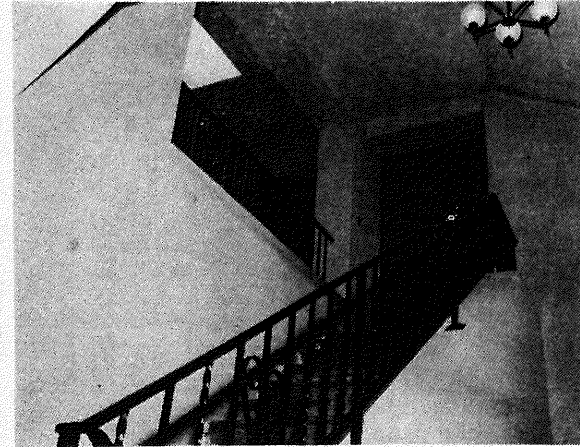
marked the beginning of a very gratifying evening, both spiritually and socially, for everyone attending the youth rally and the hayride which followed. The youth rally was entitled, "Footsteps to Jesus." The theme was brought out not only by paper footprints down the aisle of the church; but also by a well-executed and colorful picture "spotlighted" on one side of the church—while a poster denoting and explaining the theme was "spotlighted" on the other side of the church. The five "footsteps" to Jesus stressed were believe, repent, accept, obey, and follow. These were interpreted by means of music, readings, short talks, and the capable emceeing of Denis Burrell. Elder Noah Camero concluded the program with a concise sermonette which summarized the five "footsteps."

Following the youth rally, a somewhat chilly, though enjoyable, hayride was held at the Carl Cory farm. Everyone gratefully gathered around the large campfire where choruses were sung and testimonies were given. By this time, all those present were prepared to satisfy their appetites with hot chocolate and homemade cookies. Having taken advantage of their last chance to warm themselves by the campfire, everyone piled on to the wagons and made the journey home.

It is our prayer that the Lord will continue to help us, guide us, and bless us in all our endeavors during

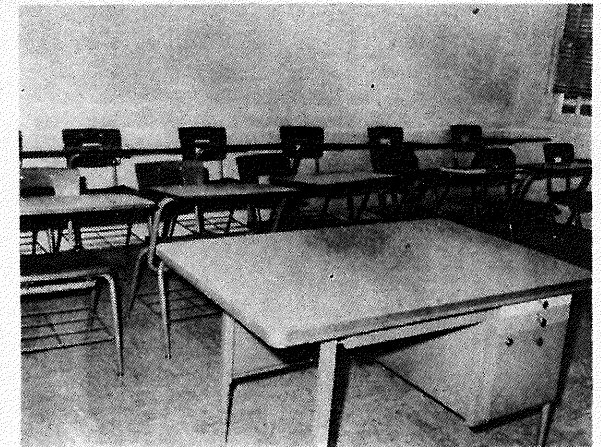
the remaining months of school at Midwest Bible College.

Linda Salmons



This is the new view as seen from college entrance. Note new light, ceiling, stair railing and wall opening.

These are the new chair-desks for students and new desks for teachers at Midwest. Each room has a different color combination.



YOUTH of America

The F.Y.C. of District Number Two invites you to the inspirational Winter Camp for all youngsters age 13-25 to be held at Lake Beauty, Minnesota, on December 30, 31, and January 1.

Camp cost \$15.00—Registration fee \$5.00. Send your registration promptly to: Evelyn Casselman, 3704 Midland Ave., White Bear, Minnesota 55110.

news and reminders . . .

Youth Convention at Huron, South Dakota—1969

ATTENTION! Begin now to plan to attend the General Conference Youth Program to be held at Huron, South Dakota, July 1-19, 1969. The youth facilities are excellent and the program will be well-rounded—with a SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS.

On October 24, as chairman of the Young People's Department, I was privileged to travel to Huron and meet with some of the ministers and brethren concerning the plans for Conference. I was thrilled with the campgrounds and I know that with God's help we will be able to have a program that you will enjoy. I want to invite each of you to plan now to be at General Conference and participate in the young people's activities. Pray now that we will be able to have the biggest and best conference ever.

New Foreign Correspondent

Brother John Lemley, a junior at Midwest Bible College, has been appointed as the Foreign Correspondent for the Young People's Department. He has a great burden for the work of God among young people the world over and we are looking forward to working with Brother Lemley. Feel free to correspond with him concerning any aspect of youth foreign work. He will be glad to help in any way possible. John's address is: Midwest Bible College, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

New Leadership Committee

A new leadership committee has been appointed for the Young People's

Department for 1969. As soon as the appointees acknowledge their appointments we will list the new committee in this column.

Silver Merit Awards for 1967

We are sorry that we have not yet found seals for the silver merit awards for 1967. As soon as we find a store that handles silver seals, we will send out the awards to those churches that earned them in 1967.

National Registration

If any F.Y.C. groups have not registered their young people with the National Office, we would like for you to do so as soon as possible. It is important because we are trying to update our national mailing list and we will be corresponding with all the young people from time to time. If the young people from your F.Y.C. are not registered with this office, we will not be able to send out materials and correspondence to them. Please send us the following information for each FYC'er: Name, address, age, sex, and recipient of Aim? Don't delay because we want to report the results of the registration in AIM.

Some groups have registered already on some forms for the Merit Program and those forms did not have a place to record address. To those groups, we will be sending requests for addresses of the members of the F.Y.C.

Address of the Secretary-Treasurer of the National F.Y.C.

Mrs. Jewell Linville
113 Elm Street
Stanberry, Missouri 64489

huron, south dakota?

you don't believe it? we didn't either. but, it's a fact, general conference is going to be held in huron, south dakota next year.

contrary to what you may have heard, there are highways leading to south dakota, and there are highways in south dakota.

we have everything they had in the colorado mountains last year—except the mountains!

in case the crowds become too large, we are not pressed for space here in south dakota.

we're looking forward to seeing you at general conference next summer. if you don't happen to know where south dakota is located, look at a united states map; south dakota is on *most* of them.

south dakota is known as "the land of infinite variety." if you don't like the weather on sunday, stick around, it will change on monday.