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# Aim

*The magazine for young people*

BRADEN ACRES  
GRADE SCHOOL



(H. Armstrong Roberts)

YOUTH, WITH SWIFT FEET, WALKS ONWARD IN  
THE WAY: THE LAND OF JOY LIES ALL BEFORE  
HIS EYES.—*Bulwer*

# 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. 10

Hope E. Dais, Editor

*To revenge a wrong is easy, usual, and natural, and, as the world thinks, savors of nobleness of mind; but religion teaches the contrary, and tells us it is better to neglect than to requite it.*

J. BEAUMONT

## Contents of This Issue

No Moonlight, No Roses <i>Morton Green</i> .....	page 3
Tell Me, Please <i>Ray L. Straub</i> .....	page 6
Letter From a Teenager <i>Sabrina Evans</i> .....	page 7
Love <i>Nathan Straub</i> .....	page 11
Gratitude <i>Carrie G. Lakin</i> .....	page 12
Teen Guidelines—Be All You Can Be—Pray! <i>Glen Tilley</i> .....	page 14
Repent... and Be Baptized <i>Nathan L. Lawson</i> .....	page 16
Spotlight—Conroe, Texas F.Y.C. .	page 18
Bits and Pieces—Christians and Church Members <i>Barbara Lucas</i> .....	page 20
Editorial .....	page 22
Happy Home Building—Family Financing <i>Lloyd C. Clark</i> .....	page 24
Choosing a Winner <i>Thelma Severance</i> .....	page 26
A Happy Christian Will Get Rid of Resentment ....	page 28
Make a Mark of Merit <i>Nathan Lawson</i> .....	page 29
2T4G—Take Time for God <i>Kathleen Roche</i> .....	page 30
Minuteman—The Overcoming Life <i>Carol Millican</i> .....	page 32
School Notes—M.B.C.—S.V.A. .	page 34

# No Moonlight, No Roses



by Morton Green

The highway stretched ahead of them, a gray ribbon into the flat horizon. On either side the desert hummed by in the night. Donna moved closer to Jim, and tucked her hand through his arm.

"It isn't much farther, is it?" she said, resting her head on the back of the seat.

Jim kept his eyes on the road. "Unh-unh. About a half hour, I guess. We should see light soon."

"Do you think I'll pass for eighteen?"

Jim's green eyes passed over Donna's high-heeled shoes, her neat linen suit, her smooth chestnut hair knotted into a bun, with a perky, little white hat on top. He smiled. "Sure. I don't think we have anything to worry about. From what I've heard, the justices of the peace in this state aren't too particular about whom they marry. If you say you're eighteen, and you look—"

So this was eloping! Donna thought. It wasn't anything like she had imagined. For her and Jim there had been no ladder at midnight, no air of romantic adventure. They had left home at two o'clock that afternoon in broad daylight and, after stopping on the road for dinner, had just crossed the state line—all because their parents didn't understand.

"Donna," Jim said, "you're not listening to me, are you? What were you thinking about?"

"Nothing."

"Was it—that you've changed your mind?"

"Oh, Jim, no!" Donna said. "Why—were you?"

"No. This is the only way. I would have gone east to college next week, and—"

"If they would only try to understand us—how *we* feel," Donna broke in, "we wouldn't have to get married like this. I mean, elope. But all they can say is, 'You're too young.' 'You're too young.' 'Your're too young.' Like parrots. As if being young is some sort of a crime!"

Jim let out a long sigh. "Well, they will have to accept it now."

"Yes," Donna said.

There would be no church wedding, no orange blossoms and white satin dress, no showers and presents, and laughter and nostalgia—but it was the only way. The only way.

They came to the outskirts of a town. A motel was up ahead at the side of the highway. One red neon sign proclaimed, "Vacancy," and another, outlined by a wedding bell in green neon lights, "Marriages Performed Here."

"I guess," Jim said, "we might as well stop here."

"All right."

"Okay?"

"Okay."

Jim parked his '63 Merc in the gravel parking lot. They walked across a dark area to a door with the blinking neon sign over it, "Justice of the Peace. 24 Hours." Donna stumbled slightly and Jim held her elbow to steady her.

They entered a waiting room which opened onto a parlor, now blocked from view by drawn drapes.

A platinum-blond was sitting on a slip-covered couch, applying lipstick with the aid of a compact mirror to what was already an overgenerously made-up mouth. Beside her, a short, bald man sat fidgeting nervously with a key chain. A sour expression pulled down the corners of his thin lips.

As Jim and Donna entered, the blonde woman dropped her lipstick back in her purse and nudged a wad of gum out from between her cheek and her teeth with her tongue. "Hi," she said, chewing vigorously. "There's someone in there now. Business is good! You're next after us."

"Oh," Jim said. He looked at Donna. "I guess we'll just sit down then, huh?"

Jim sat rather stiff and tense on the very edge of the rattan couch opposite the other couple. Donna kept a tight smile on her lips, not knowing what else to do or say.

Donna looked around the room they were in. Even the lamplight didn't soften the obviously worn and soiled furniture and the cracked walls from which the paint had long ago faded, leaving only an indeterminate brownish color. It was a dump.

But we'll be out of here soon, Donna thought.

"Say, you kids look like babies—" the woman began suddenly in a brassy, high-pitched voice.

"We're eighteen," Jim broke in stiffly.

"Oh, I didn't *mean* anything," the blonde laughed. "It's just you look so young, this must be your first time. Right?"

"Yes," Donna said.

"I thought so! This is my third actually," the other said in a low, confidential tone. "Met Harry here while I was sitting out my divorce in Vegas."

"Still think we're rushing things, Violet," Harry belched unhappily.

Violet slapped his hand playfully. "Now, Harry, don't start getting cold feet. You don't know anyone until you marry 'em, I always say." Violet shot out her hand for Donna's and

Jim's inspection. "He wasn't so reluctant when we picked out this ring yesterday. Like it?"

"It's—lovely," Donna murmured, thinking she would prefer a plain gold band to such a display of obviously phony diamonds.

Jim knotted his fists suddenly. "Gosh, Donna! We forgot to get you a ring!"

"But we can't get marri—"

"We'll have to go back."

Neither of them sounded terribly disappointed. Donna, for one wild moment, felt—it couldn't be relief—but it was as if she had unexpectedly had a difficult decision postponed...

Then Violet suggested, "How about that ring you're wearing, sonny?"

"My class ring?"

"If that's what it is. Turn it around and it would be like a gold wedding band."

Jim's eyes met Donna's. "I guess we could."

"Sure you could!" Violet encouraged. "It would do, just for now."

"Donna?" Jim questioned.

Donna glanced down at the handkerchief she had unconsciously been twisting in her lap. "Fine," she said. She wasn't going to back down now. Despite this horrible—place, these awful people, she couldn't do that to Jim. She loved him and she should be willing to marry him under any circumstances.

The drapes to the adjoining parlor parted. A young man and a girl emerged, laughing and hugging each other. The girl tossed a bouquet of flowers on the couch, next to Violet, and the couple went out into the night still engrossed only in each other.

A sharp-boned woman in a motel maid's uniform shuffled out from the

parlor. "Who's next?" she demanded. "The J. P.'s ready for 'ya."

Violet jumped up. "Come on, Harry. It's our turn."

"Now, Vi. I've been thinking—" Harry began.

Violet jerked her altar-shy groom along. "Oh, c'mon! Think later!"

The motel maid picked up the bouquet discarded by the last bride. "You want to use these?" she asked Violet. "Twenty-five cents extra."

"Oh, they're wax!" Violet realized. "Fake!"

"Yeah, Property of the house," the maid confirmed in a bored manner.

"All right. I've always carried a bouquet at my weddings." At the entrance to the parlor, Violet paused and waved her bouquet of artificial flowers at Donna. "I'll toss these to you, honey, when I come out!" she laughed raucously.

The motel maid mumbled wearily, "Everyone wants to get hitched tonight! A body can't get any rest—has to get dragged out of bed every five minutes to be a witness." She looked sharply at Jim and Donna seated on the couch. "Are you kids going to want a room here? Or are you going on after the ceremony?"

Donna had never seen Jim blush before. Not looking at the motel maid, nor at Donna, he said, stumbling over the word, "I—we're not sure yet."

The motel maid ambled off toward the parlor. "Have to share a bath with another cabin, if you do. We're all filled up tonight."

It's all so crude, Donna thought. So shabby. Like that bouquet of artificial flowers you can rent for a quarter.

With the departure of the talkative Violet, the waiting room became op-

(Continued on page 23)

# Tell Me, Please

## QUESTION:

*I have a personal problem that I find hard to talk about with people close to me. The girl I have been going with has become pregnant. Her mother has always objected to our going together, and she has refused to let us get married. (My girl is too young to marry without consent.) I'm afraid that we might never get married if we wait long enough for her to be of age, and I have my right to the baby. How can I protect them?*

## ANSWER:

I wonder who gave you the impression that you have rights to the baby? You've already taken far too many rights, and all you have left are some pretty sizeable obligations. Just because your lack of morals caused a young lady to become pregnant does not make you a father.

I suggest you take a better look at yourself and your twisted viewpoint of things. Instead of making claims, you ought to repent. When you begin to realize just a part of the discomfort and misery your lack of restraint is bringing to those about you, it will help you to see where you stand.

Your "right" is to prove that you

## Youth Questions

answered by

Ray L. Straub



can become a man. Assume the responsibility for the bills that will be incurred in doctor and hospital care. Straighten out your moral values, and perhaps during the time your girl friend becomes of age you can prove to someone that you are worthy of being considered a part of the future of your girlfriend and offspring. It's incredibly arrogant of you to think you have more coming than that.

## QUESTION:

*My boyfriend will be going into the service in a few months. It is more than likely that he will be sent off somewhere, probably to Viet Nam. We hadn't planned to get married too soon, but he is suggesting that we get married before he leaves. I don't think I would mind, but our parents don't think much of it. What do you think?*

## ANSWER:

Assuming that your boyfriend is being drafted, I would conclude that you are both relatively young. There is never any need to be in too much of a hurry to get married. The rest of your lives will probably provide enough time for you to be together.

There is plenty of good reason to

have reservations about these marriages that take place just before partners must leave for an extended time. I ask myself, "Why do they marry when they know they can't be together?"

There are answers, of course, and they may help you to come to a decision. One suggestion is that it ties you to each other. It does, but that presents a poor reason for marriage. If you are going to be apart, anyway, there is better logic against tying each other up by marriage.

A sound reason is that you will have at least a little time together

being married. This is true. Where this desire is strong enough to justify marriage before leaving, and the waiting period while separated is not unduly severe in its testing, it might be justifiable. On the other hand, you had decided to wait, anyway; the little time you have together may seem like little reward for the sacrifice that will be demanded of you by being married but not actually having a husband.

Consider waiting. Get married when doing so means that you and your husband can live together as a marriage is designed to do for you.

## LETTER FROM A TEENAGER

**It is encouraging to note the sincerity of this letter from a 13-year-old youth, which was received by the publishing house. We are happy to share it with our readers:**

Dear Sir (or Madam),

I received three free samples of your wonderful Bible Tract booklets. I enjoyed them very much so I decided I would send off for some more—they were so interesting. I am also sending you a donation and I hope it will help you out a little.

I am 13 years old and my ambition is to be a missionary.

The books I would like to have are as follows:

1. The 1,000 Year Reign with Christ
2. The Punishment of the Wicked
3. Two Appointments You Must Meet
4. The Signs of Our Times
5. The Devil's Scrapbook

Thanks for your cooperation. May the grace of our Father be with you always.

Sincerely yours,  
Sabrina Evans

*"My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not" (Proverbs 1:10).*

# The Choice

By Gina Tolbert

For as long as I can remember, Mom had cautioned me to choose my companions wisely. How I wish I had followed her advice that night four years ago."

There were tears in Richard's eyes as he related his story.

It was hard to believe the young man sitting in front of Pastor Roberts was only 23 years old. From the lines in his face he looked closer to 50.

"Is that how long you have been here?" Pastor Roberts asked quietly.

"No," he answered softly. "I have only been here two years. But before that...."

Before that there had been months spent in the hospital. At first there had been little pain—he was paralyzed from the neck down. But gradually some of the paralysis had left—and then there was the pain. When the doctors had done all they could for him they sent him home. He was still unable to care for himself and after a while the burden of care became so great on his family, it was necessary to put him in a nursing home.

\* \* \*

"Where are you going, Richard?" Mom asked pleadingly, knowing the phone call had been from Hank, one of Richard's friends.

"Oh, just riding around with the fellows," Richard answered guiltily. He knew that his mother disapproved of Hank and his crowd.

Hank had a fancy hot-rod which he liked to "show off." He liked to "show off" his driving, too, and had been in quite a bit of trouble about his recklessness and stunts. There was always plenty of excitement whenever Hank was around—not all of it the type of excitement a Christian boy should be enjoying.

Many times Richard's mother had asked Richard not to run around with Hank. Richard's main answer was, "Well, maybe somehow I can win him to Christ." But whenever Richard would try to talk to Hank about Christ or invite him to church or to the young people's meetings, Hank would just laugh

and say he wasn't the religious type.

Hank was a lot of fun, so Richard continued to run around with him, even though he knew his mother disapproved. Now Richard's excuse was, "After all, I am nineteen. I should be old enough to choose my own friends."

At eight o'clock came the sound of squealing tires in front of Richard's house. Then several loud persistent blasts from a horn.

"Bye, Mom," said Richard as he kissed her on the cheek. "Don't worry; I won't be gone long. We're going to drive over to Summerville." With that Richard went out the door.

"About time you came out," Hank called. "Thought maybe you weren't coming." Hank revved the engine of his car.

Richard climbed into the car with the other fellows, sitting in the seat behind Hank. With a wild squealing of tires and a mighty roar of a powerful engine, they were off.

The trip to Summerville was uneventful. Hank even managed to obey all the traffic laws and drive sensibly. Richard began to relax a little. He had to admit he didn't care for Hank's wild driving. Coming back things were different, however.

"Look what I swiped from my dad's bar!" Larry said gleefully. He pulled a bottle out of a sack.

"Hey, give me some!" cried Tony, sitting in the front seat beside Hank. After helping himself, he handed the bottle to

Hank. The bottle was then passed around. Richard refused when it was offered to him.

When the others began teasing Richard, Hank turned his head to see what was going on in the back seat.

"Hey, watch out!" yelled Larry.

Hank turned back around and saw the lights of an on-coming car right in front of him. Hank swerved, trying to miss the car but he lost control. His car struck a culvert, rolled down an embankment and came to rest on its top. Its occupants were thrown from the car. Hank's legs were pinned under the wreckage. Tony and Larry were lucky. They landed in the matted grass in the ditch. Broken ribs, a broken arm and cuts and bruises were all they suffered.

Richard was thrown over 100 feet from the car.

"Careful, now," Richard dimly heard someone say. The next thing Richard remembered was awakening in a brightly lit room. But, again, consciousness did not last long.

For several days Richard was near death. Many prayers were said in his behalf. Richard had suffered a broken neck and internal injuries. The doctors did not give him much of a chance to recover. If he should live, it was possible he would be completely paralyzed the rest of his life.

Richard did recover to the point he could be released from the hospital. But, as the doctors had feared, he was paralyzed. There was a chance that physi-

cal therapy would help him so he was taken to another hospital, many miles from his home.

Several months were spent there, trying to get feeling back into his arms and legs. The day finally came when Richard could actually move his fingers and toes. Richard regained some use of his arms and legs, but not enough to completely care for himself. At last Richard was sent home. There was nothing more that could be done for him.

Richard's family tried to care for him the best they could. Finally, though, it was necessary to put him in a nursing home so that he could receive the care he needed. Richard had been there the last two years.

\* \* \*

"So that's my story, Pastor Roberts," Richard continued. "What does the future hold for me? No one knows. Unless God intervenes, I will be doing little more than thinking. There isn't much I can do with my hands. I can't walk. Unless someone pushes my wheelchair out onto the lawn in front of the nursing home, I can't enjoy the birds, trees, flowers and the many other wonderful things of God's creation—so many things that I had always taken for granted.

"As I mentioned, Pastor Roberts, I have lots of time for thinking. One thought that seems uppermost in my mind is the importance of choosing one's companions wisely. I can look back now and see how important it is. I wish there were some way I could tell Christian young

people how important this is—in more ways than one. —Trouble is, Pastor Roberts. I suppose most young people are just like I was. They won't be impressed by just being *told*. I dread to think of others having an experience like mine.

"Of course, we shouldn't 'snub' those who live in sin. We would never win anyone to Christ if we did. But there is no excuse for us to do the things they do."

*My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not* (Proverbs 1:10).

*And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him . . . Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother* (2 Thessalonians 3:14, 15).

---

The first virtue of all really great men is that they are sincere. They eradicate hypocrisy from their hearts. They bravely unveil their weaknesses, their doubts, their defects. They are courageous. They boldly ride a-tilt against prejudices. No civil, moral, nor immoral power overawes them. They love their fellowmen profoundly. They are generous. They allow their hearts to expand. They have compassion for all forms of suffering. Pity is the very foundation-stone of genius.

—Anatole France, French novelist (1844-1924).

\* \* \*

When you have a fight with your conscience, and get licked, you win.—Nuggets.

# Love

By Nathan Straub

"...as I have loved you,..." (John 13:34). What is love? Love is defined by one dictionary as: "a strong liking for or attachment to someone."

Most times people love those who in return love them, but the Bible says this is not so great. Anyone does that. A great love is one where the beloved is not loving or returning given love.

Some say that unrequited love is not love, yet Jesus loved with unrequited love. It is difficult to love those who are not lovely, but it is Christian and right.

Moses is today a greatly respected figure of history, but during his own time he was not loved and respected. He was a great leader, but was often very unpopular with his followers. It is recorded that some were ready to stone Moses. He was rejected of the very people he was sent to serve and guide to freedom in their own land.

The people had done a serious thing when they rejected Moses, the chosen leader of God. They had, in fact, then rejected God, the Sender of the leader, Moses.

The heart of that people was continually set on making mischief, and yet Moses loved these people who had rejected him.

When the people of Israel worshiped the golden calf and shamed themselves, Moses was angry against them. He made the people drink water that had in it the ground-up golden calf, then he sent the Levites through the group to slay the guilty.

Then we find Moses, the rejected one, pleading for the forgiveness of his followers. Moses in effect said that if they could not have life, then he could not enjoy his. Moses showed a great love to his people, even though the people many times stood against him.

"... What  
manner  
of  
love  
the  
Father  
hath  
bestowed  
upon  
us . . ."  
(1 John 3:1).

“... as I have loved you...” Christ is our example. The world was, by and large, hostile toward Jesus. He was rejected by His own people. At one time they sought to drive Him off a cliff to kill Him. Then we find the populace shouting, “Crucify Him, Crucify Him.”

Jesus did not have to die. He could have called on more than twelve thousand angels to save Him. But He

did not. Only He could provide salvation for mankind. Though the crowd shouted, “Crucify Him,” He was willing to die so that they could live. This is a great love.

It is easy to love our friends (Matthew 5:46), but we need also to love those who are in need of salvation. We need to love and be concerned about everyone.

---

## Gratitude



by Carrie G. Lakin

I have an ugly old tom cat named Thomas B. Catt. He's an orange tabby better known as a tiger cat. As cats go, he has little to recommend him. He doesn't keep mice chased away from my home because it is so terribly hot here—110-120 degrees—that mice, rats, and flies are a rarity. What few mice or insects there might be are kept under control by an exterminator, a man who comes by once per month to keep the apartments free from pests.

The scarcity of mice and birds for my cat to live upon has made him utterly dependent upon me for his food. As a result, Thomas B. is probably one of the world's laziest cats. When he is not being fed or petted, he spends most of his time sprawled upon the top of some car parked in the shade, or between the fender of a car and the tire as protection from the heat, or else asleep, curled into a bright orange ball upon my rug.

Thomas' greatest redeeming feature is his character. He is a gentleman who sheathes his claws and refuses to scratch or bite small children when they, not knowing any better, get a stranglehold around his middle causing his stomach to hurt. He seems to know that toddlers are too young to know how much they hurt him by squeezing him too tightly, or by pulling his hair, or tail.

The best part of Thomas' character is his gratefulness. He knows he is dependent upon me for his food and he lets me know that he knows this by his gratitude.

Never will Thomas eat the food I put before him, however hungry he may be, without first coming over to purr or rub against my legs. It may have been several hours since he has eaten, but although his food dish is on one side of the room and I on the other, Thomas B. Catt will smell the food but will not take the smallest bite before he has come across the room to thank me. When I acknowledge his “thanks” by saying something like, “Nice kitty! I know you are thankful,” he will return to his dish and clean up every crumb.

We are dependent upon God for the very breath of air we breathe, yet how many of us

are as grateful as Thomas? Do we take our food, our clothing, our nice homes, and wonderful parents for granted, or do we really appreciate these blessings from God? If we do appreciate them, let us be like Thomas B. Catt. Let us take time to tell God so.

---

### HIDDEN HAPPINESS

One day when I was 11 years old, I came home weeping because I had been given a small part in the background of a children's program at the church while my playmate was assigned the leading role. Quietly my mother took out her watch and put it in my hand.

“What do you see?” she asked.

“A gold case, a face and hands,” I replied.

Then she opened the back of the case and repeated her question. I could see tiny wheels and screws.

“This watch would be no use at all,” Mother said, “without every part—even those you cannot see.”

Her little lesson has made me happier all through life. I have realized how essential are the small duties which everyone must perform, without applause from others.—Mrs. Floyd Crook

---

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere  
Their high communion find—  
His service is the golden cord  
Close-binding all mankind.  
Join hands, then, brothers of the faith,  
Whate'er your race may be!  
Who serves my Father as a son  
Is surely kin to me!

# Be All You Can Be -- Pray!

By Glen Tilley

The title of this article is changed from the original expression. "Be all that you can be—read," is what we often hear. Reading is a good thing—one of the few ways in which we learn. The others are seeing, doing, and hearing. I will add to this list—praying.

Prayer can open doors that we cannot see through, talk through, or go around. Prayer is our direct line to the source of all power and wisdom. The psalmist David declared, "For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all Gods. O come let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For he is our God" (Psalm 95:3, 6, 7).

What significance does prayer have for me as a teenager?—As a college student?—Or one just starting out in business? What should I pray for and when? The importance of prayer in your everyday life cannot be over-emphasized. Prayer assumes there is a Supreme Be-

ing, that this power which rules the universe, God, is concerned with our needs and desires, and that it is possible for us to approach God with the assurance He will hear us and help us.

Prayer requires faith. If you cannot pray and fully believe that you are heard, then your prayer should be for faith. From this point I'll assume you believe that God can and does answer prayer but you are in doubt as to how to go about praying.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 says, "Pray without ceasing." This does not mean that our life should be one endless prayer session. It means that our life should be guided by prayer. Do not use prayer as a suggestion box or request form only. When you talk with a friend the conversation is not always asking for something for yourself. This should be our association with God. We can talk to Him as a Friend. The only difference here

is that we can ask a friend to change his mind about something we know to be different. But our prayer should not be an attempt to change God's mind; rather, it should be an attempt to let God change our minds.

This is the beginning of a close relationship with God when we let Him change our minds. Let God help you make the important decisions that you face every day. If you are a part of the "new generation" or the "angry generation," I doubt that God is the influence in your life that He should be.

True happiness and success come only to those who live in harmony with God's unchanging laws. Man's every attempt to go his way contrary to God's plan has led to disaster, and failure. If you are a teenager, you have to make many important decisions now. In fact, the most important ones will have to be made in the next few years; the choice of husband or wife, education and vocation. These decisions will be made in due time, but one thing that you should do now is to let God be your best Friend, constant companion and advisor. Not only can He make these important decisions for you, He will make the right one.

Let us consider prayer in a different way. We pray for things. This is good; we are commanded to pray for the sick, to pray for wisdom and understanding, and to pray for forgiveness. All these are illustrated for us

in the Lord's Prayer, but there is another important function of prayer—and that is worship. To say that God breathed into man the breath of life and man became a living soul is a way of saying that there is something of God in every human being. To keep our identity with God alive, this priceless possession must be nurtured. God is a spirit and we must set our hope in things spiritual rather than in worldly, material power. Prayer is our closest contact with God and the most effective form of worship.

I cannot advise you on how to pray for your specific needs, but you can pray for whatever weighs heaviest on your heart, provided it is in accord with God's will. We cannot predict what is in God's infinite mind but through prayer many things can be accomplished that would otherwise be impossible.

Prayer changes things and can unlock your greatest potential. You can be all that God expects you to be if you pray and obey.

---

## LET'S TAKE TIME

Everett W. Hill

Let us take time to think things through;

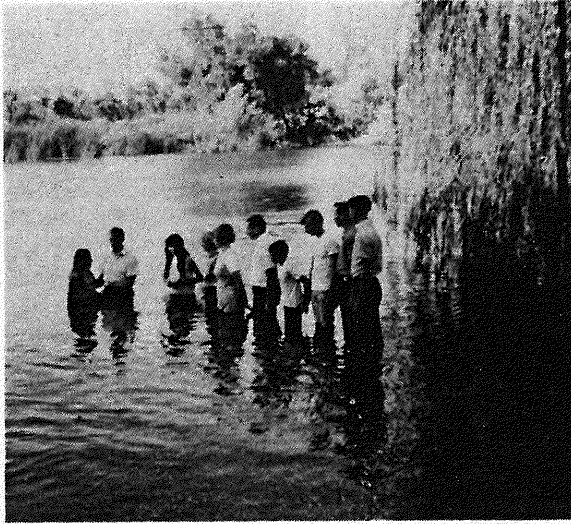
Why rush and worry and fret?  
There is time for play as well as work,

Something we should not forget.  
Let us take time for daily reading,  
And a few minutes for prayers;  
Take time for laughter, carry a smile,  
And we'll soon forget our cares.

—Sunshine



# Repent . . .



*Baptismal Service conducted Sabbath evening, August 10, 1968, at the Lodi Lake, Lodi, Calif. From left to right are: Rosemary Ogren, Elder Nathan Lawson, Debbie Teem, Pam Dais, Anita Holt, and Dwight, Ronnie, Harold, Tim, and Freddie Ogren. Pam Dais is from the Lodi Church, the other eight young people are from the Stockton Church.*

Recently here at Lodi-Stockton, we have been blessed and our hearts made happy beyond compare to see nine of our young people each take a faithful stand for the Lord Jesus Christ. This is the result both of a wonderful Youth Camp which some of them were privileged to attend in Oregon and experiences that some of them made at the West Coast District Camp Meeting; as well as instruction they receive in their home churches.

After conducting this baptismal service, the largest thus far in my short ministry, I feel a great desire to write to you,

whoever you are, and encourage you to make your decision now for the Living God. Youth, if you are unsaved, I hope that you won't lay this issue of AIM down until you have finished this short article.

I see an urgent need to reach youth now, while there is yet time. Somehow, we need to reach you before Satan entices you to get involved in the corruption, pleasures of sin, and the violence of this present world. Satan's call is one of kicks and short-lived pleasure. While Satan beckons youth like you down this broad road of sinful pleasure, God is quietly pleading

# and Be Baptized

Nathan L. Lawson

with your heart. He is asking you to turn in to the narrow road that leads to holiness, happy living, eternal joy, and the Kingdom of God. This is God's road. How do you get there?

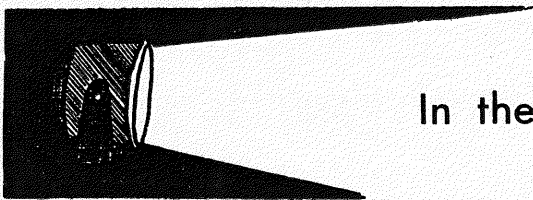
REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED. The Bible says, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall

receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (Spirit) (Acts 2:38).

Some of you are hopelessly living in a lost, sinful condition. You could be saved. You can be if you will turn to God and give your heart wholly and completely to His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. I wish somehow that we could help you to make this Eternal Decision for the  
(Continued on page 33)



*Nine young people with their pastor leave the water of the beautiful lake. Leaving behind the "old man of sin," they have a new life before them. These have been buried with Christ in baptism.*



In the Spotlight

## Conroe, Texas F.Y.C.

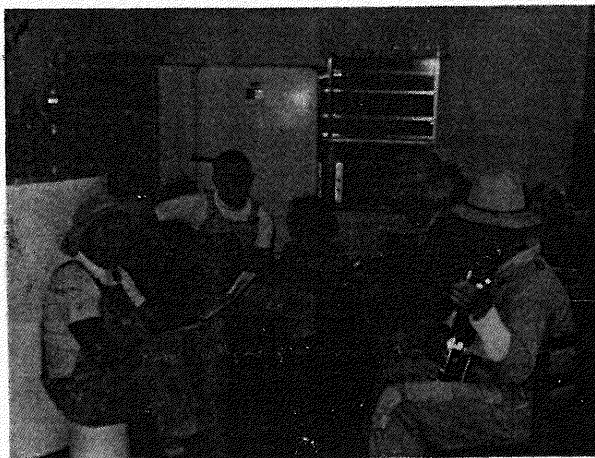
Deep in the Piney Woods of Texas is a place called Conroe. Eight miles east of Conroe is the location of the Church of God (7th Day). Here, we in the Conroe area meet to worship God.

The story of our F.Y.C. begins many years before the actual establishment of any F.Y.C. For years, Sister Virginia McCoy planned youth rallies and encouraged the young people in their socials and other fellowship activities.

Since organization under the constitution of the national Faithful Youth Challengers, we have re-

ceived two silver Merit Awards. Programs and projects have been a source of encouragement to young and old alike.

Within the last couple of years and the loss of several of our members to Spring Vale Academy and the Armed Forces, some discouragement set in. The F.Y.C. still had activities, but it was not quite as active as before. However, it was during this time that two youth retreats were held in Conroe. Both proved to be successful with many receiving blessings.



### *HILLBILLY SKIT NIGHT*

*(left to right): J. D. Brann, Ken Knoll, Roxie Groce, Mike Vlad, and James Reneau.*

# Aim

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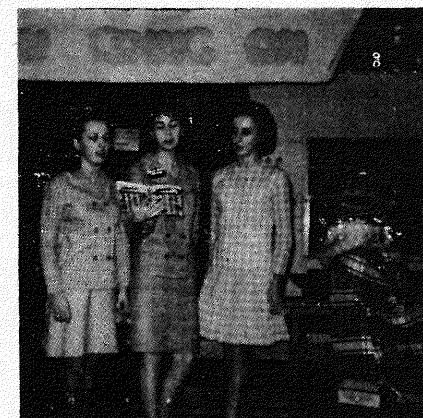
*Some of the Conroe FYCers: top: Clay Smith, Jefflyn Davis, Monte Smith, Paul Brann; middle: Mike Vlad, Phillip Walker, Ken Knoll, Roger Helton, Jerry Moldenhauer, Ronnie Smith; bottom: Paula Wilson, Kathy McCoy, Mary Jean Wilson.*

Now we come to a more pleasant part of our story. Again our F.Y.C. is "on fire for Christ." This summer has indeed been a blessing to the Conroe Church as a whole. Ken Knoll, Jerry Moldenhauer, and Mike Vlad were welcome additions to our youth group and church congregation. They provided much encouragement and needed assistance in our activities. Our sponsors, James and Leona Reneau, have also been more than willing to stand behind us with ideas and moral support.

Our major project for the summer, raising money to help our students at Spring Vale, was very successful. Projects such as a slave auction with each F.Y.C. member going to the highest bidder and a hillbilly skit night put us well on our way. Not only were they profitable financially, but they also gave us the opportunity to work together with a common goal. Another highlight was our visits to the Houston Spanish Church. It is always an inspiration to meet with our Spanish friends as we jointly worship God.

Now with the beginning of a new school year, four of our members are attending Spring Vale Academy. This leaves us with approximately ten members, but all are very enthusiastic about our activities for the coming year and all are willing workers. We ask that all of you pray for us as we strive to do God's will.

—Mary Jean Wilson



*Picture taken at last year's youth retreat: Roxie Groce, Mary Jean Wilson, Sandra Harris, Jan Pedersen.*

# Christians and Church Members

## WHAT KIND ARE YOU?

*Some Christians are like wheel barrows—always have to be pushed.*

*Some Christians are like Arctic Rivers—frozen at the mouth.*

*Some are like canoes—need to be paddled.*

*Some are like kittens—contented when petted.*

*Some are like trailers—they have to be pulled.*

*But a good Christian is like a watch*

*—open faced, busy hands, pure gold, well regulated, and full of good works.*

\* \* \*

Let's be content with what we have—not what we are.

\* \* \*

Christianity has not been tried and found wanting; it has been difficult and therefore not wanted or tried.

\* \* \*

A river becomes crooked by following the path of least resistance.

## “SEZ I TO MYSELF—”

Sez I to myself as I grumbled and growled,  
“I'm sick of my church,” and then how I scowled!  
“The members unfriendly, the sermons too long—  
In fact it seems that everything's wrong—  
I'll quit going there, I won't give a dime;  
I can make better use of my money and time.”

Then sez my conscience to me, sez he,  
“The trouble with you is you're too blind to see  
That your church reflects you, whatever it be.  
Now, some pray and pay and serve cheerfully;  
Stop all your fault-finding and boost it up strong.  
You'll find you'll be happy and proud to belong;  
Be friendly and willing, and sing as you work,  
For churches aren't built by members who shirk.”

## MELT THE SAINTS

It is related that during the reign of Oliver Cromwell the government ran out of silver coinage. Cromwell sent his men to a cathedral to see if they could find any silver. They reported: “The only silver we can find is in the statues of the saints standing in the corners.”

“Good,” he replied, “we'll melt down the saints and put them into circulation.”

This is indeed the crying need of the saints of God... to be melted down and get circulating for the Lord. All too many are as statues, standing in the corners.

\* \* \*

## IT ISN'T THE CHURCH—IT'S YOU

If you want to have the kind of church  
Like the kind of a church you like,  
You needn't slip your clothes in a grip  
And start on a long, long hike.  
You'll only find what you left behind,  
For there's nothing really new.  
It's a knock at yourself when you knock at your church;  
It isn't the church—it's you!

When everything seems to be going wrong,  
And trouble seems everywhere brewing.  
When prayer meeting, Young People's meeting, and all,  
Seem simmering, slowing,—stewing,  
Just take a look at yourself and say,  
“What's the use of feeling blue?”  
Are you doing your “bit” to make things “hit”?  
It isn't the church—it's you!

It's really strange sometimes, don't you know,  
That things go as well as they do,  
When we think of the little—the very small mite—  
We add to the work of the few.  
We sit, and stand around, and complain of what's done,  
And do very little but fuss.  
Are we bearing our share of the burdens to bear?  
It isn't the church—it's us!

So, if you want to have the kind of a church  
Like the kind of a church you like,  
Put off your guile, and put on your best smile,  
And hike, my brothers, just hike,  
To the work in hand that has to be done—  
The work of saving a few.  
It isn't the church that's wrong, my boy;  
It isn't the church—it's you!

# Editorial

Sometimes we can take comfort in the silliest things! For example, a man who has failed to get his lawn mowed may find comfort as he drives by a neighbor's unmowed lawn, glad that he is not the only one who has failed to accomplish the task.

Arriving late to church and seeing someone else arriving at the same time, or a little behind, may provoke the remark: "Well, we're not the only ones." (As though that really made any difference at all!)

In these situations it is *easy* to recognize that the failure of another cannot be the basis on which we set our own goals. However, in other areas where right and wrong are not as clearly defined, we need to be cautious that we do not measure our achievements—or our actions—by what others fail to do. God expects us to measure our actions by His Word, by His Example, and by His answer to earnest prayer.

Perhaps there is no faster way for our society—even the Christian standards in our society—to go downhill, than for each of us to allow our standards and efforts to slip a little in accordance with what we see someone else do—or fail to do.

A good practice for each of us is to look for a challenge where others seem to be failing, rather than finding there a shelter or excuse behind which to hide.

One arriving late to church would be foolish indeed to conclude that because another is also late, it must be the acceptable thing. Rather, it should cause him to determine that he himself will be the very best example of promptness from now on. Likewise, other actions cannot be judged to be acceptable, simply on the merit that someone else does it.

"A wise and good man will turn examples of all sort to his own advantage. The good he will make his patterns, and strive to equal or excel them. The bad he will by all means avoid."—*Thomas a Kempis*

## NO MOONLIGHT, NO ROSES

(Continued from page 5)

pressingly quiet. The draperies muffled the sounds from the parlor. The silence beat against Donna's ears. Suddenly from somewhere in the motel, psychedelic music blared forth from a radio.

"Baby, let's groove and fly! Fly—fly through that technicolor sky!"

A hysterical laugh bubbled up in Donna's throat. Ah, this was just too much—just too funny! Being married to the accompaniment of mod music. It suited this place so well—it was so very, very appropriate!

"Donna, what's the matter?" Jim said. "You look—"

"Oh, Jim!" Donna wailed; then she jumped up and ran out the door and stumbled across the parking lot blindly to Jim's car, where she sat shaking and choking back sobs.

Jim was only a few steps behind her. He got in the car too, and leaned over her hunched figure, whispering with concern, "Donna—Donna, what is it? Can't you tell me?"

"It's—this awful place—it's so shabby—cheap—!" Donna sat up, wiping at her eyes with her hand. "It's like some kind of ugly—marriage factory. Those wax flowers that keep getting used over and over—you don't understand, do you, Jim? You think I've failed you."

"No. I... I've been thinking the same things."

"Have you?"

"Yes. I love you, but it isn't right this way. We're acting like fugitives, and I respect you too much to start off our marriage like that."

Donna held Jim's hand as he started the car motor. "I thought eloping would be—all moonlight and roses.

And it turned out to be neon-lights and second-hand wax flowers. Like a bad dream." The cool desert night air caressed Donna's hot face as they moved out onto the highway. "Are we going home?"

Jim nodded. "We have to work this out with our folks, Donna. Yours and mine. I'm telling my father I'm going to college, but out here. Not the one he attended back east. We'll promise your folks to wait at least until you're finished with high—"

"I want a church wedding," Donna said. "Not anything big. But I want my family there when I get married, and our friends. I want orange blossoms and a white satin dress, and—" She stopped and sniffled.

"Don't you have a handkerchief?" Jim laughed.

"No, I can't find mine—"

"Here, take mine," he said gently.

Donna wiped her eyes with Jim's clean, white handkerchief. She smiled and pressed his warm, strong hand tightly for a moment. Everything was going to be all right.

---

George MacDonald, in one of his books, wrote about a woman who had experienced a sudden tragedy. The heartache was so crushing and her sorrow so bitter that she spoke aloud, "I wish I'd never been made." Her friend, in what appears to be divine wisdom, whispered, "My dear, you are not made yet. You're only being made and this is the Maker's process." We can let God take our troubles and make out of them a garment of Christian fortitude which will not only warm our souls, but will serve to inspire others.

Robert V. Ozment in *But God Can*  
(Fleming H. Revell Company)

# Family Financing

Lloyd C. Clark

Christians are involved in the concepts and practices of our modern economic system. If the whole story could be told I am sure some of us would be shocked. A portion of the "Great Deception" is now with us. We may not be exercising the policies in the broad economic market but we are certainly caught in that market and being deceived. Society has been plagued since time began with all forms of schemes to deceive the public and make some easy money. The affluent society of '68 has not escaped. The evidence of fraudulent schemes are fresh each week in my business. This short chapter will only hint at some of the many deceptive schemes on the market.

WE HEAR ABOUT THE "DOOR TO DOOR" SALESMAN. Do you question him; ask for his credentials; check his local address or seek assurance from your Better Business Bureau? A check with the local police would assure you about his permit to do business in the community. Who is this man asking for a down payment or a signed contract? Compare his price with the local store. Can you secure

local service on equipment that requires repairs or adjustments?

Again, be careful about contracts purchasing things as magazines where you make a deposit and arrange repetitive payments. The same scheme is used in the photographic business. . . . you make a deposit for repetitive purchases at a greatly reduced price. In some cities and states such schemes have been outlawed. These contracts often cost more than the regular plans. Agents often move and in many cases the family moves or never carries through on the contract.

Some states will not support collection on default accounts because of the fraud in the promotion of these schemes: correspondence courses that promise great results in positions and increase in incomes; work-at-home schemes with weekly income doubled by use of a few spare hours; promotion of famous writing and art courses with \$600 to \$1,000 tuition fees; a promise you will begin selling your writings or art after a few lessons.

THE BIG DISCOUNT PROGRAM has found its way into every city and hamlet. Discount signs go

up today—gone tomorrow. Discount catalogs list prices much below their own listed retail prices. Some indicate 25 to a 30% markdown. A check with your local stores on the same items will often save you money. Any markdown more than 10% can be questioned. There is a real reason when the price tag is much lower.

Another plan we are involved in whether we want it or not is the coupon book, premium plan, trading stamps, the sunny dollars, and a hundred other plans. They get your interest; you want what they promise—and some of those beautiful gadgets offered are worthwhile. But who gets them? How many have you seen? However, they do keep you going back again and again, living in hopes that someday you will be a lucky one and come up with the right number. It's a gamble! From reports I have read, you pay thirty to fifty percent more than by a direct purchase for cash. You might check this out!

THE ADVERTISING BATE PLAN! To use one item for illustration: We will receive a phone call or a card through the mail saying you have been selected for a 50% discount on a sewing machine if you come at once to the place of business. You go but at once the salesman will say that the specials are all gone. However, they have another machine, much better, with an excellent price to make up for your loss. You ask to see one of the specials offered on the phone

in case you would like to order one. He may say he was allowed only a few and more responded than planned, no more are available, they are completely out of stock, or they have withdrawn them from the market. . . . whatever excuse he may feel will satisfy your psychological nature. This plan is used by dress shops, used car dealers, and many other sale programs. In any case, the sale people are clever and they will have your mind directed to another item with flourishing promises before you realize what has happened.

BARGAINS THROUGH QUANTITY PURCHASES! There is no end to this world of deception. Let us illustrate a plan practiced in some supermarkets and other stores. You will see a sign like this: "this item selling at 15¢ each . . . six for \$1.00" Is this correct? Will you quickly pick up the six? Nine out of ten will do so. But let's figure it! If you buy six, one at a time, you will pay 90¢.

This is a deceptive plan, playing on the public feeling that the more you buy, the more you save. Every store carries some real savings in quantity buying. The point is: this one item could repay the store what they have spent for stamps or coupons which in turn helps to keep you coming back, even though there was a "mistake," in case some one complains.

You may say, "I don't have the time to compare prices,"  
*(Continued on page 31)*

As a junior leader at camp a short time ago, I tried hard to learn names of nearly forty boys and girls. I like working with boys and girls and I wanted to be able to call each one by his or her right name. I'll confess that I didn't completely succeed. Sometimes I would say, "Clifford, could you do this for me?" Then I would discover that I was talking to Clifford's brother, Barry. Or I would say, "Now I think I know your name. You're Mickey, aren't you?"

Imagine my surprise when the answer was, "No, I'm Debbie."

"Tell me how to tell you and Mickey apart," I asked.

Mickey and Debbie are quiet little dark-haired sisters of Japanese parentage. "My hair is not as dark as Mickey's," Debbie answered.

Little incidents, bit by bit, helped me fit most of the

names with the right people. You might be surprised at the kind of things which happened to help me remember names.

Right in the middle of a lesson, a boy brought his hand down "SWAT" on the leg of his neighbor. He wasn't angry, he just wanted to surprise his friend. It surprised me, too, and I remembered his name easily.

Right at the beginning of camp, before classes ever began, I was getting some material ready for the craft class the

next day. Along came three boys and stopped at the big table where I was working. "Could we help you?" one of the boys asked.

"Yes, I think maybe you can help me," I answered. "We are going to make these wall hangings." I showed them a sample of the project. "I need patterns for each table of boys and girls, so they can look at the pattern and know what to do. I didn't get time at home to finish my work."

"O.K., we'll help," the boys said.

I gave them colors and showed them how to fill in the birds, branches, leaves, and flowers on the pattern sheets. I appreciated the good help and we got acquainted easily.

Each night at bedtime I checked the girls' bathroom to see that all was well. One night

three girls were just starting to take showers. "It's already time for lights to go out now," I gently reminded them.

"So . . . ?" one girl spoke rudely.

"We'll get to bed right away," another answered sweetly.

You may wonder why I relate these incidents to you. It is because I want to tell you about a difficult choice I had to make at camp. Our camp director had asked me to choose an Outstanding Junior Citizen

## Choosing a Winner

By Thelma Severance

from the group of juniors. My reaction was that it would be easier to choose an Outstanding Naughty Citizen. There were ever so many well-behaved boys and girls. For that reason, a naughty deed seemed to stand out and mark a certain boy or girl.

At the end of camp week the choice had to be made. I had to remember things that had happened all week. I had asked the juniors please not to chew gum in church services or Bible classes. I feel that it is irreverent, not respectful to God. Elder Walker had also asked that gum not be chewed at fireside services. I noticed that some juniors still chewed gum in services. Some did neat work and some did sloppy jobs when it was their turn to help in the dining room. Some went to bed on time and others were hopelessly late. Some obeyed willingly, some did not. I had to remember names for the right people. Who had listened attentively? Who had taken part in lesson discussions? Who had learned verses? Who had been good helpers? Who had been kind to others? Who had been obedient?

I found myself unable to choose an Outstanding Junior Citizen. I asked counselors, "Who is the most cooperative person in your dormitory?" Finally, we narrowed the choice down to two girls. Then I could not make a choice between the two girls.

"Choose this girl," one leader said. "She always says 'thank you' for everything when we

serve her in the food line."

"They are equal," others advised.

"Can't they share the trophy?" I asked. With uncertain feelings about the right choice, Peggy Williams was chosen to receive the trophy and Karen Larson was given honorable mention. They rightly deserved the honor.

The experience of choosing a winner reminded me of another kind of choice. The Lord is calling boys and girls to choose to follow Him. He doesn't say "Only one of you can be a winner." He has made rules for us to follow. Our parents and teachers show us the right way day after day. We have to make the choice to do right and please the Lord or do wrong and lose a reward. All of us can be winners of God's reward. A trophy is nice now; a crown of righteousness when Jesus comes will be greater. To enter into Life Eternal with the Lord is a prize to seek to win. Let us watch our ways and please the Lord so that we may win the prize and live with Him.

RELIGION is natural; CHRISTIANITY is supernatural.

\* \* \*

**God is looking for Spiritual Fruits, not religious nuts!**

\* \* \*

**Christianity, like soap, is no good unless it is used.**

\* \* \*

**God put the church in the world, but the devil is trying to put the world in the church.**



# A Happy Christian Will Get Rid of Resentment

By Jessie Truman

Resentment, like temptation, comes to all at some time. It is a giant that must be slain before we can be happy Christians. Haman is a perfect example of resentment. He resented Mordecai, a Jew, who refused to bow in his presence. Haman's resentment grew into hatred and a desire to get revenge. So he ordered a gallows built to hang Mordecai. But Haman was the victim of his own resentments and was hanged on his own gallows.

In perfect contrast is the story of Joseph. His brothers resented him and sold him into slavery. Potiphar's wife resented him when she failed to seduce him, and falsely accused him. Joseph had been greatly wronged twice, yet he did not allow himself to be filled with resentment.

If, in your soul searching, you find a bit of resentment, you may be surprised to realize that it comes from self-pity or envy. Ask God to help you root it out at once. If it's left to grow, it will affect your physical health and it will separate you from God!

Jesus said "...if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." Love and resentment *cannot dwell* together in the human heart.

"In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is *not of God*, neither he that loveth not his brother. For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous. Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you. We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him" (1 John 3:10-15). **GET RID OF RESENTMENT**, it's a matter of life or death!!!

# Make a

# M ARK OF MERIT

by Nathan L. Lawson

We live in a world that is filled with violence. There are riots, wars, and hatred everywhere you look. This world which was given to man by God is rapidly being destroyed by the evil works of man. Mankind is in for a great surprise when Christ returns to this earth. The Bible declares that He will "destroy them which destroy the earth" (Rev. 11:18, last part).

In the midst of this crooked and perverse world in which we live, we need to be building something eternal instead of destroying what God has given us.

God offers you a way to construct your life worthy of that Glorious Kingdom to come. You must turn away from the evil works of man and give your life completely to God.

While others are involved in riots, demonstrations and violence, help your FYC to become involved in worthwhile activities. The Mark of Merit Program offers a real challenge to FYC groups. It takes a real active program to win either the Silver or Gold award that this program offers. If your group is not involved in this program this year, then plan to join us beginning January, 1969.

You can add the following two FYC groups to the list that appeared in last month's AIM.

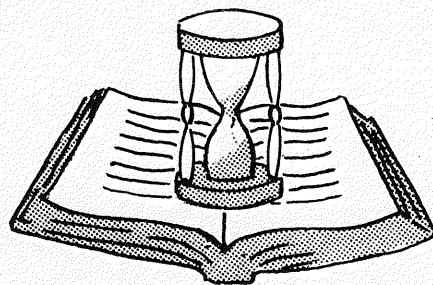
	Points	Bonus Points
Fort Smith, Arkansas	225	43
Marion, Iowa	145	

By the time you read this report, you should also have the Mark of Merit Report Sheets for the third quarter of 1968. These should be filled in and mailed to me promptly.

## PROJECT OF THE MONTH

Have your FYC members become involved in a Bible Reading program? A chapter a day for each member is a good way to carry out this project. Bible reading is very important in the lives of young people. I hope that you can use this as a project for your whole FYC group.

# 2T4G Take Time For God



By Kathleen Roche

The word "free" has a magical ring all its own that attracts the attention of all who see it. We often see "free stamps," "free towels," and "free film" only to find, upon further study, that the offers are not nearly as free as they sound. But what a difference when we consider what God offers.

"I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely" (Revelation 21:6). Just imagine, that grand prize—eternal life—and it's FREE for "whosoever will" (Revelation 22:17). There are no gimmicks connected with this offer. It's for real.

And that's not all! The song entitled "The Best Things of Life are Free" goes on to tell about some of the other luxuries that are included at no extra cost to you.

Sometimes we cut out a coupon that entitles us to a few cents off on a purchase and then put it in our pocket and forget about it until the offer is no longer in effect. But let us be careful to take advantage of God's special offer before it is too late. He paid a high price so that we might be free from debt. "Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life"

Date	Chapter
Oct. 15	1 Sam. 22
Oct. 16	1 Sam. 23
Oct. 17	1 Sam. 24
Oct. 18	1 Sam. 25
Oct. 19	1 Sam. 26
Oct. 20	1 Sam. 27
Oct. 21	1 Sam. 28
Oct. 22	1 Sam. 29
Oct. 23	1 Sam. 30
Oct. 24	1 Sam. 31
Oct. 25	2 Sam. 1
Oct. 26	2 Sam. 2
Oct. 27	2 Sam. 3
Oct. 28	2 Sam. 4
Oct. 29	2 Sam. 5
Oct. 30	2 Sam. 6
Oct. 31	2 Sam. 7
Nov. 1	2 Sam. 8
Nov. 2	2 Sam. 9
Nov. 3	2 Sam. 10
Nov. 4	2 Sam. 11
Nov. 5	2 Sam. 12
Nov. 6	2 Sam. 13

(Romans 5:18). "Jesus Paid It All." Then in Revelation 21:6 He promised . . . "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely." So all mankind has to do is claim the gift.

When a sale has ended, much of the merchandise is usually still available at a higher price. But this is not so with the gifts of God. Matthew 7:7 says they are free for the asking today. But if you have not already accepted the gift of God when the Lord returns to judge the world, it will then be too late and no amount of money or words will save you.

The most valuable FREE gift ever offered is still available today. If you have not already done so, get on the "Royal Telephone" and place your order *now*. Offer ends . . . ??

Nov. 7	2 Sam. 14	Nov. 11	2 Sam. 18
Nov. 8	2 Sam. 15	Nov. 12	2 Sam. 19
Nov. 9	2 Sam. 16	Nov. 13	2 Sam. 20
Nov. 10	2 Sam. 17	Nov. 14	2 Sam. 21

## FAMILY FINANCING

(Continued from page 25)

weights and items." You should *take* the time and you will quickly learn to spot the deception. If you can save 2¢ on each dollar spent for food (based on the average family budget) you will save one payment on your car note or the price of a new coat for the next winter.

It could be a wise move if our schools would institute a Family Financing Course to teach future housewives how to manage the family budget. Perhaps some young couple will be a

bit wealthier ten years from now by a study into this subject so briefly discussed.

(May I suggest two short pamphlets: BUYER, BE WARY-31¢, and READ THE LABEL-38¢, from Michigan Credit Union League Public Relation Services, P. O. Box 5210, Detroit, Mich. 8235).

*Wit loses its respect with the good when seen in company with malice; to smile at the jest which plants a thorn in another's breast, is to become a principal in the mischief.—SHERIDAN*

# MINUTEMAN

## The Overcoming Life

By Carol Millican

*"Wait on the Lord..."*

In the fast pace of our everyday lives it is often difficult to realize the importance of being able to wait patiently. The prophecy that "people will be running to and fro" is certainly being fulfilled. Yet I read somewhere that even in our fast-moving world we spend about one-third of our lives just waiting—we wait to catch busses, trains, and planes; we wait in line at banks and check-out counters; we wait for our friends at various times.

So the virtue of being able to wait patiently is certainly no small one even from the world's viewpoint. But if it is important to be able to wait patiently in worldly matters, how much more important it is to be willing to wait patiently to receive a spiritual blessing! In one of our previous articles we considered the importance of using our time wisely; being able to devote some time during the day to "waiting" for spiritual revival is also highly spoken of in the Bible, as our verses for this month show.

There are a number of examples in the Bible of people who "waited upon the Lord" and of those who did not. You will recall that the prophet Daniel always prayed three times daily, no matter how busy he was. Remember also how Jesus commended Mary for sitting at His feet, and reprimanded Martha because she was "too busy" to do so (Luke 10:41, 42). The parable of the ten virgins also has an application here. The five foolish virgins were perhaps too busy to go to the market and buy the oil they would

**Matthew 6:33**

**Psalms 27:14**

**Isaiah 40:31**

**Hebrews 10:36**

**James 1:4**

**Hebrews 12:1, 2**

**Psalms 46:10**

need later to trim their lamps (Matthew 25:3) and as a result were not ready to meet the bridegroom when he came. So it will be with us if we do not take time for spiritual rejuvenation every day.

So let us not get so wrapped up with our everyday routine that we can't take time to "renew our strength" by waiting upon the Lord. If we seek the kingdom of heaven first every day then we are more apt to be able to find the time in the day to perform other duties: "... these things shall be added unto you."

REPENT AND BE BAPTIZED

*(Continued from page 17)*

Lord. We are praying constantly for you, even though we don't know you personally.

Acts 2:39 goes on to say, "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call." God does not leave you out. You are now making your choice either to go God's way and be in that glorious kingdom to come, or to walk with Satan in sinful pleasure and end up destroyed in the "lake of fire."

Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16). To be damned by God in judgment is not going to be a very pleasant thing for you to face. Punishment is going to bring "weeping and gnashing of teeth"—and finally total destruction.

BELIEVE, BE BAPTIZED, AND BE SAVED. God in the great love that He has for each of you, has offered this plan to you for Eternal Life and Happiness. Your sins can be forgiven, the condemnation of death can be removed from your life, and you

can become worthy of Almighty God.

In baptism, we bury the sinful nature that dies when we truly become repentant toward God. Leaving this old life behind, with Christ we rise a new creature. A new life is before us. This is your chance to make good eternally with God. This is the greatest opportunity of your life. This is your opportunity to prove yourself worthy of the Kingdom of God. From this point, God expects you to walk worthy of the Holy Calling that He has called you to. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above..." (Col. 3:1).

THIS YOU COULD MISS!!! Now I would like for you to do just one other thing. Take your Bible and turn to Revelation, chapters 21 and 22. Read them slowly and carefully. These tell you about all the greatness of the Kingdom of God. There is no pleasure, no kicks, nothing that Satan has to offer you in this life that will even begin to compare with the Glory of this Kingdom. You see, this is God's Kingdom—prepared for you, if: **YOU REPENT, BE BAPTIZED, AND RISE TO WALK WITH THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

# School Notes

## GOD'S BLESSINGS AT M.B.C.

Great blessings from God have been realized here at the beginning of this school year. We are thrilled to inform you that some very major goals concerning Midwest Bible College have been reached. In this time when wickedness abounds everywhere and the coming of Christ draws nearer, we all must work together to expand the work of spreading the Gospel in a faster and more efficient way. We urge you to pray much that God will send more workers into His vineyard.

M.B.C. started its school year with the largest student body ever. Twenty young men started to classes on September 10 with great enthusiasm. In addition to the ministerial students there are two full-time women students, three part-time women students and three women who are auditing some classes. God willing, there will be seven students graduating at the end of this school year. Six freshmen students enrolled in M.B.C. this fall. There is a fine spirit of unity among the students and staff and we are looking forward to great spiritual blessings throughout this school year.

The M.B.C. staff for this year consists of two full-time teachers, Elder S. J. Kauer and Dale Lawson; and three part-time teachers, Elder R. C. Moldenhauer, Mrs. Jewell Linville, and Mrs. Evelyn Petersen. Doctor A. L. Carlin is not teaching any class this semester but is working very closely with the staff in its program and classroom activities.

In addition to the blessings of having a good student body with several young men training for service to God and His Church, the college has been blessed by the renovation of its physical facilities. The building has been beautified throughout and the atmosphere is pleasant and accommodating for study and worship. At the time of this writing, the finishing touches of redecorating are being done.

Another blessing that has come our way is that of having purchased new furnishings for all the classrooms, library, and offices of the school. Each room has a pleasant atmosphere and efficient equipment for the student's use. Some additional furnishing will be ordered for the college chapel in the near future.

Because of the renovation work and lack of the new furnishings, the school had to do its best to get along at the beginning of the year. It was with some difficulty that we held classes the first few days, but now the schedule is assuming a good pace and God's blessings are continuous. The students are becoming involved in the Stanberry church program and are anxious for opportunities to put their learning into practice.

The church has a great need for workers and pastors throughout this country. We want to ask capable young men to give God—and full-time service to Him—first consideration in their lives. What about you? Has God been calling you and you just haven't completely surrendered to Him? Every Christian should be so

committed to God that he will offer his life to Him to do whatever He wishes. God is calling! Will you answer?

## SPRING VALE ACADEMY

Your editor was privileged to be a visitor on the campus of Spring Vale Academy the first weekend of this year's school session.

It was inspiring.

Progress seemed evident in every direction. The beautiful new girls' dorm is a real credit to our school. It surely serves well as a home away from home for the Spring Vale girls. In the homey lounge, with fireplace in one end, it was a blessing to gather with the girls for one of their morning devotions. At prayertime, the girls freely mentioned the many prayer requests which were on their hearts. Several girls then led out in prayer. (Surely it was a spiritual atmosphere in which any parent could be proud to have his child.)

Looking across campus, the con-

struction of a gymnasium and new classroom building was seen—another sign of real progress. —But again one was made to realize that while these material signs of progress are a real blessing, the beautiful, adequate buildings would be nothing without the genuine spiritual atmosphere which we felt during the consecration meetings when young high schoolers fell on their knees at the altar to consecrate their young lives to our Heavenly Father.

A banquet was prepared for the students, faculty, and visitors on campus that weekend. The atmosphere was pleasant. The affair was well organized—and the food delicious. —But again, most impressive was the resounding young voices singing choruses in praise to God, heart-touching specials by young people, and the sincerity of a Christian faculty member as he presented the evening in a fashion that gripped the hearts of young hearers.

Spring Vale is a school to be proud of! Undoubtedly many future church leaders are nurtured here.

## 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

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