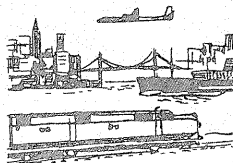


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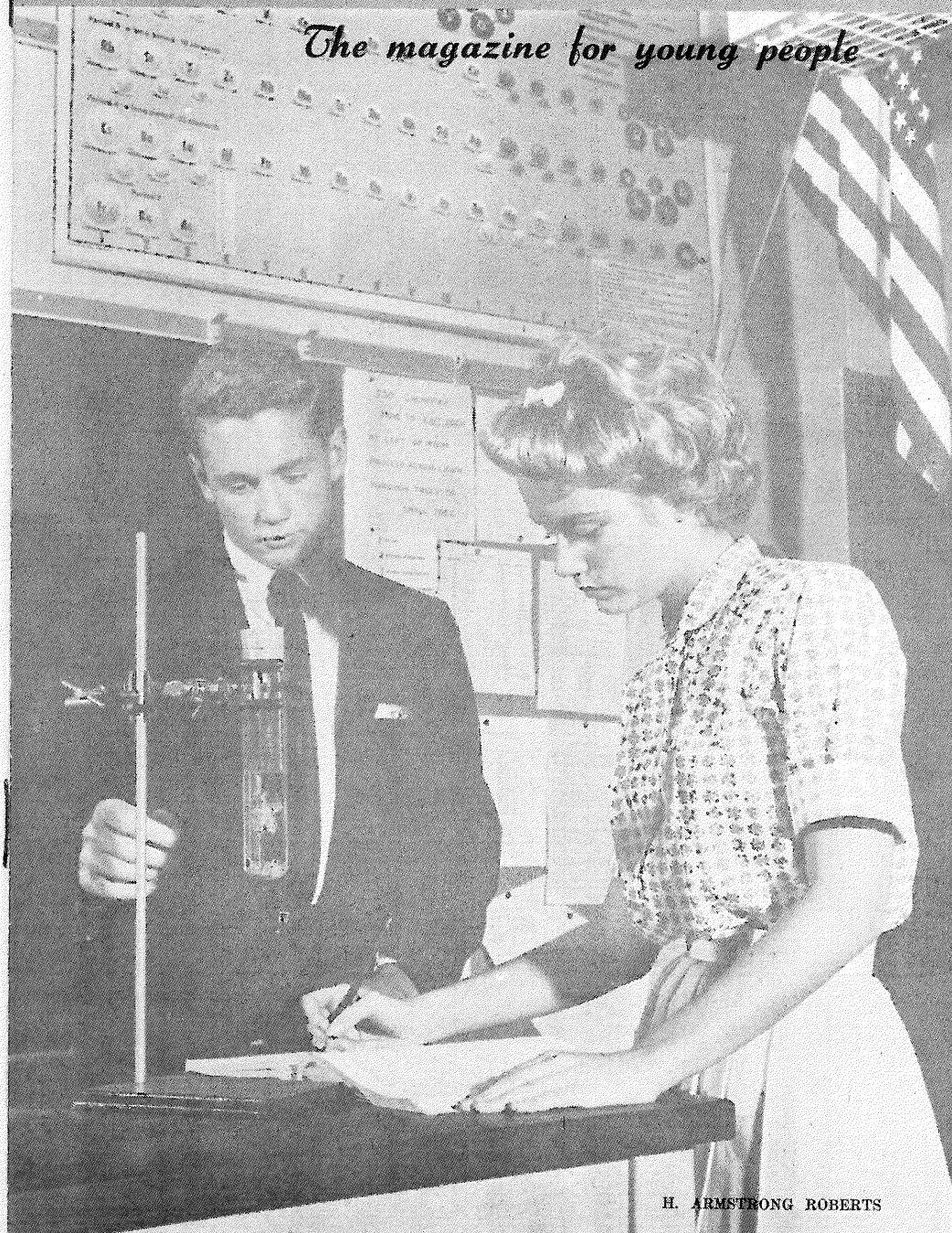
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Aim

The magazine for young people



H. ARMSTRONG ROBERTS

Aim The magazine for young people

AIM is dedicated to the promotion of higher ideals and more challenging spiritual goals among the young people of the Church of God. It is published monthly under the direction of the Young People's Department of the General Conference by the Church of God Publishing House at Second and Willow Streets in Stanberry, Missouri. It was entered as second class matter on September 10, 1959, at the Post Office in Stanberry, Missouri, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Subscription rates: \$2.00 per year in the United States and Canada. Foreign, \$2.25. Clubs of 6 or more to one address, U. S. and Canada only \$1.50 each.

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Vol. XXXI, No. 9

Hope E. Dais, Editor

Education does not consist in mastering languages, but is found in that moral training which extends beyond the schoolroom to the playground and the street, and which teaches that a meaner thing can be done than to fail in recitation.

—CHADBOURNE

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What's

The

Difference?

Young people, I would ask you to go with me back to the days of Christ's youth. We cannot suppose His attitudes would even *begin* to parallel the modern ones of today.

A youth who has considered himself a Christian may think to himself, "Now, I've played the game of life fair and square all my years but before I settle down I want to do some 'living.' I'll just go along with the crowd for a while to have a little fun; then I'll get back on the right path."

What were Jesus' thoughts as a youth?

So, the next thing we know, a youth may be at the dance. To look a part of the group, he has a cigarette in one hand and a drink in the other. Not that

By Marilyn Brunson

he actually approves of all of this but it's considered a sign of maturity by the world.

What did Jesus, as a youth, consider maturity?

Perhaps his date is the type of girl who sometimes dresses immodestly. Maybe he isn't sure of her facial features because of the heavy make-up—and

what about that gaudy jewelry? She does have beautiful black hair, but then who couldn't with the right type of dye or an expensive wig? He wouldn't consider marrying this girl. When he gets ready to settle down he wants a serious-minded girl, one uncorrupted by the ways of sin. But let's not forget that he is "just having some fun" now.

Back to the dance. They decide they need some fresh air, so out to lover's lane or the lake they go. They do have a bit of trouble finding a parking place, which just goes to show how popular this thing is today. Everyone, well everyone of the world, does this these days. Now, let US not judge. Maybe they're just watching submarine races or catching fireflies. Nice night for that, and such a beautiful moon for light.

What is Jesus' opinion of such a pastime—even if a person is "still just a kid"?

Some of the fellows invite this youth to a little party. Beer busts are great. Besides, who could it possibly hurt? But they get a little too happy—too high, and too reckless. Wouldn't it be 'cool' to play chicken with the cars? Why not get into the school and mark up a few things? That would show the officials just what they think of the place with all its strict rules and regulations.

Again, even as a very young child, what would Jesus' reaction be to such a suggestion?

The change in the youth's

personality is quite remarkable. His former beliefs are broken. "What's wrong with cheating on a test just once?"

"I just have to see this ball-game even if it is on Friday night.

"I think I'll play a game of pool or poker just to find out what it's like.

"The theatre has a 'good' movie on.

"Maybe someone suggests marijuana cigarettes—just once—for kicks.

"It couldn't hurt to lie, just a little white one.

"Have you heard the latest gossip?"

Very alluring, isn't it? Satan makes it a point to keep things that way. There is no end. Breaking the laws of God seems to start a chain reaction. It sets into perpetual motion a way of life that leads on and on to destruction.

Why should we ask for trouble? We witness those everyday who just wanted a "taste" of the forbidden, those who thought they could change at the moment of their choice. These same ones eventually found themselves so deeply involved, they couldn't turn back. They had turned their back on God and their own strength wasn't enough.

Just between you and me, it is disgusting to imagine Jesus even *considering* such circumstances, isn't it? Okay, then why should we? WHY? God's laws and standards haven't changed. Yet, the story sounds so typi-

cal, so very natural. These "fun" years of running around, with the idea that it's something we'll outgrow or something we need to "get out of our system" is still wrong in God's eyes. We may find means of justification to soothe our conscience but let's not deceive ourselves into thinking we can "soft-soap" God. And, as young person to young person, let me say that if the love of God fills our lives as it should, there will be no ungodly, unholy thoughts or actions in our systems to "get out."

We may call sin by any soft pedaled name we choose but the wages remain the same. Death (Romans 6:23). Jesus set the perfect example and we are to follow in His footsteps. What makes the difference? How was Jesus able to live such a holy life? We find in John 6:38, that Jesus said, "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me."

Suppose we do most of the things we know God wants, but we still like to have our own way about a few things? It does not work. We are told in James 2:10, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." There is no half-way ground for a child of God to walk. "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (Matthew 6:24).

If we keep the idea in mind "...to do the will of him that sent me..." we will be moving in the right direction. Romans 12:1, 2 tells us, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

In 1 Timothy 4:12 we are instructed to let no man despise our youth but to be an example of the believers "...in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." What about this "living" by the standards of the world? "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life" (1 John 5:12). We decided earlier that Jesus wouldn't become involved in circumstances which many call "living." Let us notice Titus 2:11, 12. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men. Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." I'll admit it might be more convenient to overlook such scriptures but, friends, they will still remain as God's words and God's will, and the excuse that we "didn't notice or know" will not be good enough. The truth is as

(Continued on page 23)

Tell Me, Please

Youth Questions
answered by
Ray L. Straub



QUESTION:

You have admitted on some occasions that it is necessary for a person to date outside the church if he is to have any dates at all when there is no one suitable of the church membership that lives nearby. What about going with a fellow who does not believe in God at all, and doesn't even want me to talk about Him?

ANSWER:

"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God..." (Psalm 14:1). Why spend your time with a person of that nature? An atheist is one who generally likes to discuss his ill-founded beliefs simply because he is foolish. Your friend has other troubles. Unless you are a skilled practicing psychiatrist, you would do much better to send your friend to one and begin seeing someone else socially.

QUESTION:

Would you be completely against a couple getting married after only two weeks of courtship?

ANSWER:

It takes people longer than that to buy an automobile! What's your hur-

ry? Too often young people forget that marriage is a lifetime affair, which is terribly long. This is no time to be impetuous. If you are as impatient as all that, you have no right to ask anyone to live with you—not until you grow up just a bit more.

Courtship is a very vital and wonderful part of life. Think twice before ending it with anything as drastic as marriage. It is always good to have some idea how deep the water is before diving off a very high ledge.

QUESTION:

What do you consider to be a safe age difference between young people who are dating?

ANSWER:

Offhand, I would say that the girl could be up to three years older, or the boy five years older with couples that are in or near their twenties or older. The older the couple, the less important the age difference.

It is important to determine whether or not you can be comfortable with those who are in your companion's age group. If you are 16 and those of your boyfriend's age seem to be a bit "stuffy," look out. You may like

your boyfriend for now, but before long he'll seem just as old as the others.

Further, if your friend does not like to socialize with friends of your own age group, read the warning sign and take a detour. You are in for some difficult adjustment.

While there are numerous happily married couples whose age differences are quite a bit greater than those I suggest here, divorce statistics tend strongly to prove the validity of this suggestion.

QUESTION:

How can one tell when he is in love?

ANSWER:

About the same way he can tell when he is wet, he feels it. By asking this question you rather prove that you are not in love. When you do fall in love, you won't have to bother to ask.

WAIT!

One of God's aged and disciplined servants gave the following golden advice: "When trouble is brewing, keep still. When slander is getting on his legs, keep still. When your feelings are hurt, keep still until you recover from your agitation, at least. Things look different when seen through unagitated eyes. In a commotion, I once wrote a letter and sent it. How I wished later that I hadn't. The passing of the years, with their soul-refining and character-enobling lessons, taught me some needed lessons. I had another commotion. I wrote a long letter, but I put it in my pocket. How glad I was I did! With the passing of the days, it seemed less and less necessary to send the letter. I was not sure it would do any hurt, but in my doubtfulness, I leaned to reticence, and eventually I destroyed the letter. Time works wonders. Wait till you can speak calmly, and perhaps you will not need to speak. Silence is the most massive thing conceivable! It is strength shown in grandeur!"

—Moody Monthly

Do you have a special problem, or a matter in which you wish extra advice? You are invited to write to Elder Straub for his counseling. Send to: Aim, Box 158, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

* * *

MY INFLUENCE

**My life shall touch a dozen lives
Before this day is done,
Leave countless marks of good or ill,
Ere sets the evening sun.
This, the wish I always wish,
The prayer I always pray:
Lord, may my life help other lives
It touches by the way.**

—Anon.

* * *

Why do we sometimes complain when we are asked to pass out a few tracts? It's the least we can do for our Lord. After all, which are we more interested in: saving "souls" or saving "soles"?—Mike Weir

The First 25 Years

By Walter Isenhour

The first twenty-five years of one's life, I believe, practically determine what his future will be. Of course, there are exceptions to various rules and regulations, and to various circumstances and conditions; but many things run in a general way, and have a general trend, and life is no exception.

Much of one's home relationship is already determined up to twenty-five years of age. Beyond that, anyone can make a choice that may be different from what the home has made him, whether it be good or bad. It is possible that one may step aside, through some other influence apart from that of the home, and do differently. One may leave the good, wholesome, Christian influence and teachings of godly parents and go the way of evil, sin and wickedness after the early years of life; but this is the exception, and not the general rule.

The influence of a worldly home is practically fixed in the lives of sons and daughters before and after they are twenty-five years of age. What is fixed

in the heart-life, mind, soul and spirit of the child, and as he grows into the teens, and on up to twenty-five, usually determines what the after-life will be, and what the years hold in store. Not always, but usually.

The habits that are started in early life, that are practiced through the adolescent years, and up to twenty-five, are mighty apt to continue through the remainder of life. They become fixed and stationary. If honest, godly habits are begun in the early days and years of one's life and the character is spotless up to twenty-five, such is very apt to continue on through the remainder of life.

If the habits begun in early life, and practiced until one is twenty-five years of age are injurious both to the health and morals, and hurtful to the mind, they usually continue so in later years—and even until the end of one's days on earth. Such evil, sinful habits oftentimes shorten life, sometimes by many years.

What is fixed in the mind, the body, the morals and even the

soul in early life generally continues on and on. If evil, this may lead to crime, to prison, and to execution at the pronouncement of the courts. When God's laws are violated, with those of nature and health, along with the laws of one's country, the penalty has to be paid. It is an old saying, but very true, "You can't do wrong and get by."

Oh, the importance of good home environment, good teaching, good training and good examples for the children and youths as they grow up into manhood and womanhood! This needs to be emphasized and re-emphasized. It should be uplifted and glorified by those who are in the lead and in authority.

If one passes the twenty-five year period of life with a good, wholesome background, having been taught right, having had good examples set before him, and having had a Christian experience, along with that of Bible reading and study, and that of keeping good company, joined to that of reading good books and clean literature, and regular Sabbath school and church attendance, with sincere prayer continually mixed in, there is very little likelihood and danger of failure in future years.

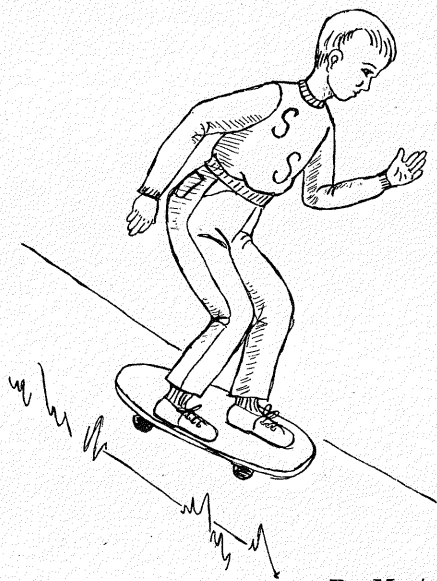
In childhood, and on up into the teen-age of life, and through twenty, and up to twenty-five, are the years that, generally speaking, make and mold the life and character. They are critical years. If the trend is pure and wholesome, the after-

years are almost sure to be blessed and profitable. Otherwise the after years are likely to be lived out in failure and remorse.

Usually one's education in school and college is obtained before, or up to twenty-five years of age. One's courtship and marriage usually is decided before, or perhaps around the age of twenty-five. What one is preparing for, and what he aims to be, and is set on doing, or working at, and devoting his time and talents to, is pretty well settled by the time he is twenty-five years of age, or before.

No wonder the Bible says: "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth" (Eccl. 12:1). How important, very, very IMPORTANT! Here is where millions act wisely or unwisely; where they start right or wrong; where they lay a good foundation upon which to build life, or wreck life; where they start toward that which is noble, and sublime; or start downward and away from all that is good. Yes, this is where they start toward a career that God sets His approval or disapproval upon.

O parents, O young people, think of these solemn truths and take heed to them! To act wisely here, or unwisely, pretty well determines one's destiny. Youth, what will the future years hold for you? You are making the decision now. How wise to make the right decision, or how unwise to make the wrong decision! It's up to you.



By Morton Green

The Sidewalk Surfers

AS he came down the steps in a surge of noisy, lunch-bound students, Peter spotted his eighth-grade friend Dusty's red head at a lunch bench across the yard.

Peter saw Dusty was with Vic Lusky, and some of Vic's friends. Vic was in eighth grade, but he had been held back a year, and should have been in high school. With his jet hair, black eyebrows and eyelashes, Vic would have been a handsome boy, but he had assumed a bored expression that made him look sullen.

Dusty wore faded blue jeans, like the other boys at his table, but they also flaunted shiny leather jackets with a curling wave and their club initials ("S.S." for Sidewalk Surfers) on the backs. Club jackets had been forbidden to be worn at school, but this particular group of boys sometimes wore them anyway, just to see if they could get away with it.

"Lo, Dusty," Peter said, coming up to the table.

"Oh... hi, Petey," Dusty responded, looking up.

Vic gave Peter a sort of grimace, and his two special friends "Slim," a boy with a bad case of pimples, and "Bronco," a heavy-set fellow, stared at Peter with cool looks.

Dusty moved over so Peter would have room to sit next to him.

"Some people pal with babies," Vic muttered, half under his breath to the other two.

Dusty gave him a kick under the table.

"Hey guy, watch who you

shove, if you want to get into the S.S.," Vic warned.

Dusty and Peter lived on the same block and had been best friends since primary days, although Dusty was a year ahead of Peter in school. Peter had been lonesome when his friend started junior high ahead of him.

Then, last summer, the boys had gone to their church's Bible camp, where both boys had been led to declare themselves for Jesus. Now they were in junior high school together, Peter had hoped they would again be best buddies. Only, Dusty had started hanging around with this Vic Lusky character...

"Well, how about it, Dusty," Vic said now, continuing a conversation that had been going on before Peter joined the table. "You coming and bringing your skateboard tonight? We're going to have a real game of chicken on Palisades Hill. And the guys who can beat that 'killer' curve are goin' to be in S.S."

"Sure, Vic," Dusty said. "You know I'll be there."

Palisades Hill was the last street at the edge of town. It ran along a bluff, overlooking the ocean, and had been a favorite place to skateboard, until some kid had gotten hurt there, and a law had been passed saying you couldn't use your skateboard there. Of course, that wouldn't mean anything to Vic and his crowd, Peter realized.

"I thought we were going to go over our intermediate lesson

for Sabbath school, Dusty," Peter said.

Dusty ducked his head. "We will, Peter," he said, in an annoyed sort of voice. "But not tonight."

"Sabbath school!" burst out Vic. "Well!" Slim and Bronco laughed, too. Dusty didn't say anything.

As Peter and Dusty walked along to English class after lunch, Dusty accused Peter, "Why did you have to bring up Sabbath school? You know Vic and those guys don't know about that stuff."

"What's got into you, Dusty? I thought we both became real Christians at camp last summer, but now Vic Lusky is more important to you than that."

"Vic does exciting things. When I'm with him, I feel like we're going to have adventures, like you read about in Superman and Lone Ranger comic books."

Peter felt badly. "We used to be friends, Dusty."

"Oh, don't be so down-in-the-mouth." Dusty gave him a friendly push. "We can still pal around together if you'd just wise up. I bet if you came to Palisades Hill tonight, and brought your skateboard, those guys would think you're okay."

When his mother asked Peter where he was going with his skateboard after supper, he told her he was going over to Dusty's house and would be back before bedtime. Peter was glad she didn't ask him anymore. It was hard to give up a good friend

like Dusty; they'd always been together in everything.

The scene at the top of Palisades Hill was really weird. The sky was overcast; the filtered moonlight only made the gnarled trees at the edge of the bluff look blacker as they tossed in the wind. The surf thundered at the bottom of the cliff.

There was a big gang of kids there, even a few girls. Some of the boys had brought bicycles with lamps on the front and had lined them up along the asphalt road that roller-coastered down the hill.

Into this bright glare, stepped Vic Lusky. He had on a leather cyclist's cap and wore bicycle chains hanging from the shoulders of his leather jacket, in addition to his usual costume of jeans and hob-nailed, black boots.

"Doesn't Vic look 'tuff'?" Dusty said. "Like someone in one of those motorcycle gang movies."

"Okay, kids, line up your skateboards at the top of the hill," yelled Vic.

Vic led off, skate-boarding down the narrow path like an acrobat. There was a gasp from the watchers as he wooshed close to the rim of the "killer" curve that looped out along the cliff. Between Vic and eternity was only a sagging wire fence.

After the boys who were already in the S.S. had exhibited their daring, the kids who wanted to join the club had their turns.

"Say," said Peter. "That's

Tom Wilson. He's only in my grade... and I ride a skateboard better than he does."

Tom came roaring down the hill, but as his skateboard approached the curve, he jumped off. His board went flying down the hill.

"Chicken! Chicken! Chicken!" Vic led the crowd. Tom ran after his board, and was too humiliated to come back.

"I—I'm kind of scared," Dusty whispered to Peter, when it came his turn. "Wish me luck, Petey, old man."

Peter admired the way Dusty hid his fear, as he balanced his feet carefully on his skateboard, and launched himself downhill. Vic led the cheers as Dusty rode his board all the way to the end of the hill. "He's cute," one of the girls chirped, as Dusty strode, grinning, back up the hill.

"Anyone else?" Vic shouted. Suddenly, Peter stepped forward and put his skateboard on the ground. The asphalt shown slickly black in the light from the bicycle lanterns.

"Say, Petey, I don't think you'd better," Dusty said. "It gets real scary when you hit that curve."

"I can do anything you can do," Peter said.

"Well, well—look who's here," jeered Vic. "This isn't a tri-cycle race, you know."

Ignoring Vic's jibes, Peter started rolling down the hill. The night air flowed over him and he could smell the salt spray of the waves below the cliff. The killer curve loomed up

ahead; as the board hit two unseen bumps, Peter lost his balance and struggled for control. He was still on the board, but he wasn't able to maneuver it the way he wanted it to go. But he couldn't fall off and be laughed at...

"Hey, kid, jump off, before you hit that fence!" someone yelled.

The warning came too late. The board flew out from under Peter and his hip hit the fence with a heavy impact. There was a loud crack as the metal fence pulled from the wood railing. Peter felt himself tumbling over the bluff's edge. Girls' screams echoed in the night!

Instinctively, Peter's hands clawed out at the rough face of the bluff. A dead tree broke his fall about ten feet below the edge of the bluff. He felt all sore and bruised; his heart thudded with fright as he looked down at the swirling dark waters and rocks below.

A crowd gathered at the top of the overhang. Flashlights blinded him. "Is he dead? Is he dead?"

"We'd better call someone," Slim said, scared.

"And get in trouble with the law? Not on your sweet life," scoffed Vic. "You can climb up, Peter, Just take it slow and get a good hold."

"Help might not get here quick enough," added Dusty softly.

The damaged metal fence swung crazily to the side and

above him. "I can't... I don't think I can."

Dusty pushed the chain fence over so it dangled above Peter. "Grab on to this and you'll make it."

Peter reached out with one arm, but he couldn't snatch the link fence. He'd have to balance himself on the tree limb and catch the fence with both hands. But what if he lost his balance?

Abruptly, Dusty's voice rang out icily. "Guess he's just a chicken. He wants to play with the big boys—only he's still a little kid." Dusty leaned over the edge of the cliff. "Chicken, chicken. Bet you're too yellow to let go and climb up."

Coming from his friend, the words cut through Peter like knives. Angrily, he lunged at the wire fence. And grasped it firmly. He climbed the few feet as if the fence were a wire ladder, and was pulled over the edge of the cliff by two of the boys.

His knees were still shaking as he stood up and faced Dusty. Words would not come. Peter turned and ran down the hill. He hated them all. Dusty, especially.

He had to stop running, at last. He walked along in the night back toward home.

"Petey, Petey. Wait."

Dusty ran up beside him. "Hold on a minute."

"Go back with your friends. You can be in their club now."

"I told them I'm not joining."

(Continued on page 23)

"I am come that you might have life, and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

Abundant Living

By Terril D. Littrell

A poet once interpreted MAN by picturing a ladder with the top lost in the clouds. Upon it stood a being with outstretched arms, crying, "I WANT, I WANT!" But what does man want? I think Jesus knew that above all else man wants LIFE: Real, vital, dynamic, and abundant.

Man by nature is a selfish creature. His philosophy of life is expressed in the words of the first murderer, "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Gen. 4:4). In this "dog-eat-dog" society it is generally: "Every man for himself," and "AFTER ME you come first."

It is a well-known fact that persons who love and find fulfillment in other people will also find happiness for themselves. Conversely, most of those who are ill or seriously disturbed have deep-seated fears and are suspicious of others, or harbor angry and revengeful feelings toward others. Most of the time, they are actually deeply angry with themselves, and fear themselves.

The healthy, spiritual attitude of the Christian is stated briefly in these words: "Put Jesus first, others second, and yourself last." Now note the

initials of these words, Jesus, Others, Yourself; put them together and they spell JOY!

Truly abundant life consists primarily of vitality.

Vitality is more than physical health. It makes one glad to be alive and enables him to look on life, not as a burden, but as a thrilling OPPORTUNITY to serve others. An opportunity to see others when they are tired, or sighing. And what will make them feel better? Always seeing what they mean to do, even if they don't do it just right.

It takes the grace of God to help us look at our neighbor through the loving eyes of Him who always had "compassion" on the masses, and came "not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many."

To some people I have known, life seemed to be a bore. They would grumble and complain; everything seemed to go wrong and everybody appeared to be at cross purposes. They continually made mention of their aches and pains. Actually they could see their own reflection as other people interpreted them. As you think, so you are and do. As you continue to think, so you become. Your thoughts set the pattern of your life, influenced, of course, by environment.

One of the religious leaders of our time, Dr. Norman Vincent Peale, has written a widely-read book entitled, "The Power of Positive Thinking." Without being in agreement with his theology, there are many good ideas in the book. It is really an enlargement on the idea presented in Proverbs 23:7: "For as he (man) thinketh in his heart, so is he..."

We should always be cheerful, and hopeful, setting a good example for others. If we seek to serve others, we will not have time to think on the dark side of life; consider all our misfortunes, or our aches and pains. We should think POSITIVE.

The handling of LIFE is a great business. There is the way that leads to order and peace, and, of course, the other that leads to muddle.

A Christian medical doctor once advised his patient: "Buy a new dress," he said to a lonely woman. "Then find someone who is lonely and a stranger to

you. Take your friend to the next church social and see that she is introduced to ten other people, and see that she has a good time. Then come back." Did his plan work? It sure did! The lonely woman changed direction of contemplation of self—to service.

If you want to be happy—really happy, and enjoy the truly abundant life that God would have you to—then FORGET YOURSELF in living out the truth that Jesus taught in service for others. Make His truth, and His love the standard of life.

Be a leader and you will find that others tend to follow in the paths you make. Every leader has a following. You have more influence than you know.

Youth today needs to look for goals in life. Even your plans of a career must be evaluated according to these goals, then measured against the standards of living set by Jesus Christ. Don't ask yourself, "What's in it for me?" but rather, "What can I do to build a better world, by using my talents in this chosen career?"

Paul admonished us, "Let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others" (Phil. 2:3, 4). Believe me, what you and I send into the lives of others will come back into our own!

*"Others, Lord, yes others,
Let this my motto be,
Help me to live for others,
That I may live like Thee."*

So You're Going Away to College

Here are Some Basic Tools

By Katherine Bevis

Most of us have heard the expression, "He needs a little horse sense." And someone has defined horse sense as "stable wisdom." This "stable wisdom" provides basic tools which bring rich rewards in the tough college days ahead.

Remember! You are leaving your home and the best friends you have ever had or ever will have. Don't forget them. No accomplishment in college in the way of academic learning can take their place.

Remember to be a Christian. Your religious life must not be neglected. Enter into the spirit of college life to its full—social, athletic, and religious activities—if you are to have a well-rounded development and prevent lopsidedness.

Remember to have regular hours for study, and use these hours for studying.

Remember to have regular

hours for rest and play, and use this time correctly.

Remember to have regular hours for eating, and eat then, slowly and quietly. Wait thirty minutes after eating to study or take exercise.

Remember to abhor the slightest appearance of hazing. It is meant for fun, but executed in miserable cowardice.

Remember your social club or fraternity will be very near to either SALVATION or DAMNATION. Help to make it what it ought to be, or get out of it.

Remember to be too noble to lead others into evil, and too strong to allow others to lead you in that direction.

Remember to be fair with the folks back home. Match their sacrifice by your diligence.

Remember that your roommate is by far the most important person you will meet at college. See that he is clean—inside

and out. If he lives on the road to hell, either help him or move out, but do one or the other quickly.

Remember to travel every day with God; take Him everywhere you go. He is more companionable than you might think.

Remember, you have entered college; use this great privilege.

* * *

THE YOUTH YOU OUGHT TO BE

This is the youth you ought to be—
A Christian in your heart,
Quite willing in your home and church

To do a vital part
Of all it takes to carry on
The work that each should share,
And bless the ones with whom you live
Through love and faith and prayer.

This is the youth you ought to be—
In mind and thoughts sublime,
A student wise who values much
Your precious days of time;
Who studies wisely to prepare
For future usefulness,
And trusts the wondrous grace of God
To give you grand success.

This is the youth you ought to be—
Dependable and true,
Quite honest with your fellowmen
In what you say and do;
Who forms no habits that are bad
That undermine your health,
And in whose inner, outer life
There's moral strength and wealth

This is the youth you ought to be—
A leader in the right,
Whose conduct and examples fine
Make you a shining light,
That help your fellow-youth to see
Life's richer, higher goals,
And thus set forth with noble aims
That shall enrich their souls.

This is the youth you ought to be—
To make a better earth
By lifting up a banner high
That's great in mortal worth;
And greater still it ought to be
In helping others win
The victory in their hearts and lives
That triumphs over sin.

This is the youth you ought to be—
Who sows the best of seed,
So when the harvest time arrives
On God's rich food you'll feed;
And in so doing bless your land
By helping humankind
Go forth to eat God's manna sweet
Where earthly saints have dined.
—Walter E. Isehour.

* * *

THE SORE FINGER

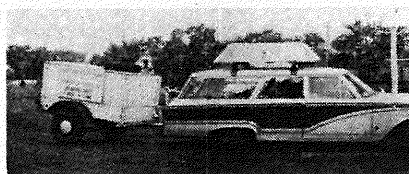
Many years ago Dwight W. Morrow, the father of Anne Lindbergh, told a group of friends that Calvin Coolidge had real presidential possibilities. They unanimously disagreed, saying that Coolidge was too quiet, and lacked color and political personality. "No one would like him," objected one sage.

But up piped little Anne, then aged six: "I like Mr. Coolidge." Then she displayed a finger with a bit of adhesive tape on it. "He was the only one who asked me about my sore finger."

Mr. Morrow nodded. "There's your answer," he said.



Currently on Tour



YOUTH SPEAKER

DALE LAWSON

**M. B. C. Graduate
F.Y.C. Chairman
Teacher—MBC**

As September AIM goes to press, the seven members of our Youth Missions team are traveling in the northeastern and southeastern states, bringing help and inspiration to many.

In the team's well-planned program is included information and encouragement concerning the youth programs offered through our National FYC organization. These are: Minuteman, Evangelette, 2T4G (Take Time for God).

Also included in the program are many inspiring songs, presented with the accompaniment of Brother and Sister Patchen at the piano and organ. (The organ travels with them in the trailer shown above).

It is the purpose of AIM and the National Youth Department to bring to you as our youth all the encouragement and help we can. If you are not familiar with the programs and helps offered to you through your youth department, write for more information. Booklets and brochures are available. Yearbooks offering suggestions for successful youth rallies, etc., are also available. The new address of our national FYC chairman is: Dale Lawson, 515 Park St., Stanberry, Missouri 64489.



**MUSICIANS
AND SINGERS**

VERN & MARY PATCHEN

**Pastor—S.V.A., Mich.
National Youth Leadership**



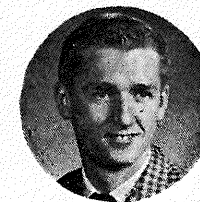
YOUTH SINGERS

—KEN KNOLL

—MIKE WEIR

—MARK LING

Students at MBC



**S.V.A. REPRESENTATIVE
SINGER**

CALVIN BURRELL

**Teacher—S.V.A.
Dean of Boys**

A Paraphrase on The Acts of the Apostles

(Continued)

By Nathan Straub



Saul became more powerful, and bewildered the Jews living in Damascus, proving to them the truth of Christ.

Later, after many days had passed, the Jews conspired to kill Saul. However, the disciples learned of their ambush. The Jews watched the gates day and night in an effort to kill Saul, so the disciples let him down the wall in a basket at night.

When Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to associate with the disciples. However, the disciples were all afraid of him and did not believe that he was a disciple.

So Barnabas took Paul and presented him to the apostles and told them of how Saul had seen the Lord on the road, and that the Lord had spoken to Saul. Barnabas told the apostles how Saul had boldly preached in Damascus, in the name of Jesus. Then Saul went with the apostles as they went in and out of Jerusalem.

Saul spoke boldly in the name of the Lord Jesus and argued against the Grecians.

The Grecians prepared to kill Saul. When the brethren learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him to Tarsus.

All the churches in Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peacefulness. They grew and were walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit as they grew greatly.

PETER AND AENEAS 9:32

As Peter traveled through all places, he also came down to the saints living in Lydda. In Lydda he found a particular man, named AENEAS, who had palsy and had been confined to his bed for eight years. Peter said to him, "AENEAS, Jesus Christ makes you well. Get up. Make your bed."

AENEAS got up immediately. Everyone living in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

PETER AND DORCAS 9:36

There was a particular disciple in Joppa, named Tabitha (which interpreted means, Dorcas). This woman was full of worthy activities and kindnesses which she performed.

In those days, it happened that she was sick and died. When her friends had washed her, they laid her in an upper room.

Since Lydda was near Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent two men to Peter to ask him to come to them without delay.

Peter got up and went with them. When he arrived, the disciples took him into the upper chamber. All the widows stood by him crying and showing him the coats and clothes which Dorcas had made while she was with them.

Peter put all the disciples out of the room. He kneeled down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up."

She opened her eyes and when she saw Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and pulled her up. He called the saints and the widows and presented her alive to them.

This was known all over Joppa, and many believed on the Lord.

As it happened, Peter stayed several days in Joppa with a tanner named Simon.

CHAPTER 10

CORNELIUS 10:1

There was a particular man in Caesarea named Cornelius. He was a captain of the band called, "The Italian Band." He was a devout man; who, with his family, feared God. He gave many good things to the people and always prayed to God.

About three o'clock in the afternoon, Cornelius saw, in a clear vision, an angel of God, coming to him and saying, "Cornelius."

When Cornelius looked at the angel, he was afraid and said, "What is it, Lord?"

The angel answered, "Your prayers and your gifts to the people are like a memorial in the sight of God.

"Send men now to Joppa to call for a man called Simon Peter. He is staying with one, Simon, a tanner; his house is by the sea side. Peter will tell you what you ought to do."

After the angel, which had spoken to Cornelius, left, Cornelius called two of his household servants and one of the soldiers who continually waited on him. After he had told them about the vision, he sent them to Joppa.

PETER'S VISION 10:9

The next day, as Cornelius' messengers were on their trip and as they neared Joppa, Peter went up on the housetop at about three o'clock in the afternoon to pray.

He became very hungry and would like to have had some food; but while food was being prepared, a trance came on him.

He saw heaven open and a particular container coming down to him. The vessel looked like a large sheet joined at its four corners, being lowered to the earth.

The sheet contained all varieties of four-footed beasts of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things and birds of the air.

A voice came and said to him, "Get up, Peter; Kill and eat."

(Continued on page 29)

"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began" (Titus 1:2).

Hope

By Brenda Overman

1. What is hope?

Romans 8:24, 25.

(24) For we are saved by hope: But hope that is seen is not hope; for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?

(25) But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

Ephesians 1:18, 19.

(18) The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance to the saints,

(19) And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power.

2. What our hope is for.

Lamentations 3:26.

(26) It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord.

Titus 3:7.

(7) That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

3. We have hope through grace.

2 Thessalonians 2:16.

(16) Now our Lord Jesus Christ

himself, and God even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace.

4. When was this hope promised?

Titus 1:2.

(2) In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.

Acts 26:4, 5, 6, 7.

(4) My manner of life from my youth, which was at the first among mine own nation at Jerusalem, know all the Jews;

(5) Which knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.

(6) And now I stand and am judged for the hope of the promise made of God unto our Fathers:

(7) Unto which promise our twelve tribes, instantly serving God day and night, here to come. For which hope's sake, King Agrippa, I am accused of the Jews.

5. What is said about those that have hope in the Lord?

Psalm 146:5.

(5) Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God:

Psalm 31:24 Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.

Jeremiah 17:7.

(7) Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is.

6. What is said about the hope of the hypocrites and the wicked?
Job 27:8.

(8) For what is the hope of hypocrites, though he hath gained, when God taketh away his soul?

Proverbs 14:32.

(32) The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but the righteous hath hope in his death.

7. What did David say about hope, in Psalm 16:8 and 9?

(8) I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

(9) Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope.

8. Don't be ashamed of your hope.
Psalm 119:116.

(116) Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope.

9. What does the Lord say about the children at the end of time?
Jeremiah 31:16, 17.

(16) Thus saith the Lord; Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the Lord, and they shall come again from the land of the enemy.

(17) And there is hope in thine end, saith the Lord, that thy children shall come again to their own border.

10. What does Peter say concerning hope?

1 Peter 1:2-13. Read.

THE SIDEWALK SURFERS

(Continued from page 13)

Peter stopped and stared at Dusty. "Well, how come?"

"I thought they were all so daring and Vic was like Robin Hood, or someone, doing risky things. Now I know them better."

"You called me a chicken!" Peter accused.

"Say, I had to do something to get you to climb back up, even if I had to get you mad at me."

Dusty continued slowly, thinking out each word. "I didn't know what to do . . . so I prayed. I said if Jesus would only save you, I'd try to walk in His path from now on. It was right then, when I opened my heart to the Lord, that I thought of how to give you courage."

"Do you really mean that? That you're saved for good now?"

Dusty grinned. "You can count on it, fellow."

Peter said, "Then I guess it isn't so bad sometimes if you're called 'chicken.'"

* * *

"WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?"

(Continued from page 5)

close as your Bible. Jesus gave His All. Can we take this lightly? Have we heard the call to holy living? Let us answer it then and remember Psalm 143:10, "Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness."

Editorial

"We're more popular than Jesus now," was the statement made by Beatle John Lennon. This offended many and rightly so.

While in the process of burning the Beatle records and joining the "ban-the-Beatles" move (if it took *this* to convince you), one would do well to speculate on the deplorable accuracy of his statement.

He shouldn't have said it! But still . . . how many things *are* put ahead of Jesus—in actions, though not in words?

After the records are burned, then what? Will people in general be more aware of Jesus' proper place in our lives? Will we be diligent in having a genuine dedication to our most wonderful Friend—a dedication that fellowships with Him and His Word to become daily aware of His presence?

If Jesus is most popular in our lives, we will follow His example—develop His mannerisms and His attitudes. Our leisure time will be spent in ways that are pleasing to Him. Our prayer time and Bible reading will not be neglected, but will be a precious time of fellowship with our *popular* Friend.

Our conversation will tell the difference; our choice of friends will tell the difference; our attitude toward others around us will tell the difference. Our Christlike standards will come ahead of conformity to the world.

Even from Lennon's later apology (however insincere we might deem it) we might glean a thought or two. He said, "I could have said TV or the cinema or anything popular."

If your TV could talk, could it truthfully stand up and say, "I am more popular than Jesus. Time is spent with me even if He is left out of the day's schedule. When a choice is made between leaving me out or leaving out Bible reading for the day, invariably I win. Even when I offer a low-grade program, I'm watched because it takes no effort or initiative on the part of the viewers. Essentially, I'm more popular than Christ"?

What are you and I going to do about such attitudes? Lennon's remark was distasteful and disrespectful—but are we doing anything about the situation that makes such a statement even thinkable?

What is most popular in your life? Do any of your actions give foundation for the statement that "Christianity is on the way out"?

From Across the Seas

By Jewell Linville



Brother John E. Orié, the Ahoada F.Y.C. leader. A radio mechanic in profession. He is now in charge of the Bodo-Ogoni District Church of God (7th Day).

BROTHER JOHN E. ORIE SENDS US THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE FYC FOR QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 1966 . . .

THE IHUABA CAMP MEETING

On the 15th January, 1966, a general Camp Meeting of Ekpeye/Ogba Districts was held at Ihuaba in Ahoada. The meeting which was very thrilling was attended by more than 108 FYCers from different parts of Ahoada Division and some FYCers from Aba District. The arrangements made by the FYCers with regards to camp decorations and sitting put a glittering look on both the campers and particularly on the FYCers whose uniformic dress of white brightened every corner of the camp.

And the arrangements of decorating four FYCers as orderlies of the camp was very impressive. This brings tranquility to every corner,

as campers are not allowed free movements or chattering. Here you see two of the camp FYC orderlies, Mr. Peter Ejukwu and Mr. Jonah Nwobodo in their full uniforms.

We owe special thanks of gratitude to the Idu-Osobile FYCers who chartered a bus with their money to see that many from far distance attended the meeting. This also gives the meeting a wide publication despite the invitation cards distributed by members of the FYC to friends and relatives. As they sang from the bus, everybody rallied around to see the people and were anxious to know that they were the Church of God youths going to their camp meeting at Ihuaba. We were happy to welcome Mrs. Tikili to the camp as this had made five years she attended to our District Camp Meeting. The impressive activi-



The F.Y.C. camp orderlies: Brothers Jonah Nwobodo and Peter Ejukwu.

ties of the FYC compelled her to present the sum of five shillings to the FYC. Everybody enjoyed the sermon preached by Bishop B. I. Tikili in the Sabbath evening about co-operation. Elder Tikili concluded that work cannot move on smoothly without co-operation, with many places cited from the Scriptures.

In the evening a carol was held and was led by Brother Ben Tikili from Aba of which they realized the sum of one pound and one shilling. This goes into the Ahoada Divisional FYC Fund. The camp was attended by more than 330 people and came to an end on Sunday evening after baptizing about 10 souls in the Iduaba River.

THE AYABA DISTRICT CAMP MEETING . . .

On the 21st January, 1966, I arrived to Aba with most of the Ahoada FYCers. We were given an arousing welcome by the Tikili family. We were special guests to the Aba FYC leader Brother Ben Tikili and wife. Brother L. E. Tikili, former Headmaster in our Idu-Osobile Church of God was very happy to welcome some of his scholars to the camp.

The Aba Camp Meeting was also enjoyed as more people attended. This is a picture taken by some of the Idu-Osobile FYCers that attended with myself (Brother John E. Orie) at back center.

On Monday, we said bye to our Aba host and hostess as we joined the car for Ahoada. The Nigeria FYC is moving on well, therefore, your prayer assistance and cooperation are greatly needed so as to cope with the increasing youths of the Church.

VISIT CONTINUES TO OTHER LOCAL FYCERS . . .

May readers not forget that I was on a visting tour of all the local FYCs in Ogba District which perhaps you might have been reading through my previous quarterly reports, before I cut off to attend the two General Camp Meetings for Ahoada and Aba Districts respectively. Below is how I found the two unvisited FYCs.

THE KRIEGANE FYC . . .

On January 29, 1966, I made a visit to the Kriegane local FYC of the Church of God (7th Day). Both members and the FYCers were happy to welcome me to their Church. This is an extract from their welcome address, as presented by Mr. Omodo, their teacher.

"We are happy to welcome you to our Church, Brother Orie. Since your appointment we had been longing to see you here but we were disappointed. It was last week Sabbath that we read with joy the information letter of your coming. We regret that



The Idu-Osobile F.Y.C. for the Aba District Camp Meeting. Front row: Andrew Patrick, Enoch Sunday and Joshua Eke. Back row: Jepheth Orie, John E. Orie and Luke Omodo.

there are no sufficient youths to carry out the FYC activity successfully here but the very few are doing their best. We regret also for our leader who had left for Lagos. Anyway, may God appoint boys who can work for Him. We shall be pleased to stay with you till the evening service."

In reply to this address, I thanked them so much and was very pleased to see the activities of the small youths. I assured them that now is the exact time to find God according to Eccl. 12:1. While we regret for lack of more youths, may we not overlook the training of the few we had got according to Proverbs 22:6.

Therefore may you fathers and mothers assist in training up the few in the Church in a serviceable way for the Lord. You, too, can join the FYC, as it is optional in the local FYCs. My own regret is on the departure of the local leader, Brother Awusa Emmanuel. The Kriegane FYC had been one of the progressive ones in this district, but I don't know what will be their stand in the absence of the leader. To conclude, let's put effort for we shall accomplish many things which majority cannot.

After my reply, I was happy to hear one of the girls, Miss Sarah Emmanuel, saying that there is no fear over the departure of the leader; that a tree cannot make a forest. That they are as usual by D. V. In fact, I was exceedingly happy over this soul's speech. In fact, it was a joyful day at Kriegane.

After the morning service, I lived with Mr. Omodo in Brother Edward Tom's house, and left about 2 p.m. for a business meeting, holding at the Church of God School building, Idu-Osobile.



The Kriegane F.Y.C. with the leader Awusa Emmanuel sitting at the extreme left. Miss Sarah Emmanuel is sitting at extreme right.

Here is a picture by these enthusiastic youth of Kriegane. The leader is sitting at the extreme left. May we always remember them in our prayers.

VISIT TO OMODA FYC . . .

On the 5th of February, 1966, I visited the Omoda FYC. On my arrival to the Church, I felt very disappointed as all the grown-ups had left for abroad leaving the smaller ones under no leadership of any body. Though the young ones are active, only nobody to direct them to be more active. I preached about the importance of children in our local homes and concluded that the Church of God also is in need of youths to carry out the important gospel message. Therefore, as fathers and mothers in your different homes, I think you should deliver your parental directions to the youths of the church.

YOUR PERSONAL APPEARANCE
AND THE HAPPY HOME

Happy Home Building

By Dale Lawson

Perhaps not enough thought is given to the effect that one's personal appearance can have on the building of a "happy home." And so we want to note that, to some degree at least, it may affect the happiness within your home.

While courting it is common knowledge that a person will usually appear his best in order to please the one who is the object of his affections. This, of course, makes for very pleasing appearances and sometimes can be the key to making good impressions.

After the knot is tied, we should not cease making efforts to be a pleasant and neat-appearing mate for the one we love more than all others. It is important that you never cease

to make favorable impressions on your mate throughout married life. Of course this does not conclude that for every moment and in all situations one must stay neat and well dressed. That indeed borders on foolishness because many chores and types of work call for much less than those clothes which one desires to keep; it also calls for digging in despite the dirt until the chore is finished or the day's work is done. The important thing is that you do not get into the habit of being dirty and unkept (and it is a habit). It makes for very little companionship when the husband seldom is anything but sweaty, unshaven and unkept, or if the wife usually greets the husband while sloppy and unkept.

It cannot be denied that in your own home you are entitled to privacy, and there it is good to relax and be comfortable. All of this does not mean it is the place to be negligent as far as personal appearance and cleanliness are concerned. Remember that in the privacy of your own home you are there with those dearest to you and you should want to make those moments happy ones for your family.

Your appearance in public is also important in keeping happy and helping to make those around you happy. It involves a matter of pride (proper pride) that makes your mate happy to meet the public with you.

Many things are involved that are more important than it first appears

on the surface when we consider our Personal Appearance in "Happy Home Building." Anything that is important before marriage in trying to please or make a good impression ought not to be discarded just because you "make your catch." This includes weight watching, neatness, fixing up for each other, and your personal appearance in general.

It may seem unnecessary to write about this topic because it involves a personal pride which naturally takes care of these matters. That may be true, but one can look around and notice that somehow personal pride does not always take care of this problem, and this bad habit is prevalent. Another may say, "We don't have to worry about those things because we are madly in love and that answers all our problems." Being deeply in love does answer a lot of problems and it will make the topic of this writing become a natural part of your "happy home building." Remember that true love goes beyond the physical and involves all those things (little things included) that make for a lasting and happy home.

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES (Continued from page 21)

But Peter replied, "I cannot, Lord. I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean."

The voice spoke to him for a second time, "What God has cleansed, you must not call, 'Common.'"

The vision was repeated three times and the vessel was received into heaven again.

While Peter was meditating about the probable meaning of the vision which he had just seen, the men which Cornelius had sent had asked directions to Simon's house; and were now standing at the gate. The men called asking if Simon Peter were staying there.

As Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Notice, three men are looking for you. Get up, go down and go with them without hesitating because I have sent them."

Peter went down to the men whom Cornelius had sent to him, and said, "I am the one you want. Why have you come for me?"

The messengers said, "Cornelius, who is a captain, an honest man, a man who fears God and one who enjoys a good reputation with the whole Jewish nation; was told by God, through a holy angel, to send for you to come to his house to hear words from you."

Peter invited in the men and made accommodations for them for the night.

The next day Peter, and some of the brethren from Joppa, went away with the messengers,

By Prayer Prepare

By Verna McCoy

Merchants are launching their "Back to School" sales, vacationers are rubbing the salt 'n sand out of the eyes and folding up their tents, mothers are making school clothes and airing lunch pails, many students will be packing suitcases to go away to boarding school.

With the many things to be done before the school bell rings, what thought have you given to your spiritual preparation for school? Whether you are entering junior high, senior high, college, some vocational school, Spring Vale, or Midwest you will need to be on good speaking terms with the Great Teacher.

While purchasing items for your back-to-school wardrobe, include the Christian's Armor. You then will be able to "quench all the fiery darts of the wicked" that will be so freely hurled on campus.

You do not need an appointment or have to be a "teacher's pet" in order to seek special help from the Master Teacher. Personal daily communion with Him will help you in all of your subjects and give you the courage to witness to classmates and also give you the kindness and patience to get along with all types of personalities.

Our heavenly Father is ready to do above all that we ask or think (Eph. 3:20). What a wonder it is we avail ourselves so little of the privilege of prayer.

There are certain conditions that will give us greater power in our prayers.

Some prayers are not answered, because of iniquity in our hearts (Psa. 66:18) or

M I N U T E M A N

Isaiah 55:6
Matthew 26:41
Romans 8:26
Ephesians 6:18
Philippians 4:6
Colossians 4:2
1 Thessalonians 5:17
James 5:16

because we ask amiss (James 4:3). Uppermost in our supplications should be the thought, "Not my will, but thine be done."

Another important condition of prevailing prayer is faith or belief (Mark 1:24).

When we seek blessings from God, we should have a spirit of love and forgiveness in our heart.

Diligence is a vital necessity, too. There is no time or place inappropriate for prayer. Let us go about our daily tasks with our hearts uplifted to God. Although at times we may have to be in an unwholesome atmosphere, we may have silent communion with God and be able to breathe the pure air of heaven.

Be patient and willing to persevere and persist in prayer. Earnest prayer from a sincere heart will not go unheeded, even though the answer may be delayed. Simply trust His sure promise "Ask, and it shall be given you" (Matt. 7:7).

We ought to be very thankful for God's bountiful goodness, and express our gratitude to Him often. If we would thank God as often as we have evidence of His care for us we would be ever praising Him.

To increase the effectiveness of your prayer life we suggest a prayer partner (or partners). It is strengthening to be united with others who are earnestly seeking spiritual growth and enrichment.

Meet regularly with your prayer partner or with a prayer

group. If your partner is a fellow schoolmate, it would be ideal to meet before school starts in some quiet room or area and ask God's guidance for the day. Then maybe you can get together once a week some evening after school for a longer period of meditation. Share your blessings and answered prayers. Discuss your problems, your desires and aims. Read, think about, and discuss scriptures and other religious articles related to your particular needs.

Be specific in listing the items about which you'll pray every day.

As other teenagers see the change in your life and realize the source of your help is Jesus, they may be interested in joining your prayer group. Thus your prayer requests will increase and likewise your blessings.

Listed on the opposite page are the verses for you to memorize in September. May they encourage you to prepare by prayer, begin with prayer, continue in prayer, then rejoice in prayer for successful, happy school days.

WHERE ONE MAY REST HIS SOUL

*No time is lost, whate'er the cost,
When in God's will we live;
The Lord sublime owns all the time
And knows how much to give
Each saint who walk and prays and
talks
Along life's rugged road,
Until he shouts beyond all doubts,
I'm safe in God's abode!"*

2T₄G - Take Time for God

By Vivian Hall

Many times we receive a call and do not answer. There are many kinds of calls that we might answer. A mother calls to her child who is playing next door and may or may not get an answer. If the game is very interesting then the child may be so engrossed he doesn't even hear mother's call. But oft times it is because a child hears but doesn't want to leave just at the moment. If mother has ice cream to give, it may be pretty well melted before the youngster decides to come. He is sorry he didn't answer sooner.

A community project may be undertaken with a call for volunteers. Some citizens answer the call quickly while others do not answer. Maybe their intentions were good, but they were just slow enough to be too late. If, after the project is completed some public recognition is given to the volunteers, then more wish they had been in on the honors.

An emergency call is sometimes given to anyone with a certain type of blood to help save a life. The answer is given quickly. Many people are willing and eager to help in times of illness and emergency.

When we sit in church and listen to a stirring sermon or an especially moving song, we are often filled with a desire to do more in service for our Saviour. This may be the beginning of an even greater desire to do service for our Master. Yes, we may receive a call to devote our lives to service for Him. We may answer a call to service in many capacities—teaching, preaching, and singing. If we can serve in some capacity and do our best, God will bless and help us to do even better. If God calls us into His service, we will be blessed if we answer that call.

Jonah received a call to go and preach the Gospel to those in Nineveh—a very wicked city in

Date	Chapter
Sept. 15	Hosea 2
Sept. 16	Hosea 3
Sept. 17	Hosea 4
Sept. 18	Hosea 5
Sept. 19	Hosea 6
Sept. 20	Hosea 7
Sept. 21	Hosea 8
Sept. 22	Hosea 9
Sept. 23	Hosea 10
Sept. 24	Hosea 11
Sept. 25	Hosea 12
Sept. 26	Hosea 13
Sept. 27	Hosea 14
Sept. 28	Joel 1
Sept. 29	Joel 2
Sept. 30	Joel 3
Oct. 1	Amos 1
Oct. 2	Amos 2
Oct. 3	Amos 3
Oct. 4	Amos 4
Oct. 5	Amos 5
Oct. 6	Amos 6
Oct. 7	Amos 7
Oct. 8	Amos 8
Oct. 9	Amos 9
Oct. 10	Obadiah
Oct. 11	Jonah 1
Oct. 12	Jonah 2
Oct. 13	Jonah 3
Oct. 14	Jonah 4

his time. For some reason Jonah didn't want to go where God wished him to go. He tried to escape by booking passage on a ship going to another place. He thought he could escape God's notice, but if God really wants us in His service, He has many ways of making us understand.

In Jonah's case, a storm arose on the sea, and threatened to break the ship in pieces. The rest of the Mariners prayed to their gods and no change was made, so they looked for Jonah. He was sleeping down inside the ship, but when he saw the storm raging he knew it was he who was causing all their troubles. He told them to throw him overboard and the storm would cease. When they drew lots to see whose fault it was, it fell on Jonah, just as he had said it would. Jonah was thrown overboard as he asked, and sure enough, the storm ceased. No doubt this made believers out of some of these sailors when they realized the power of the true God.

A great fish had been prepared by God to swallow Jonah as he was cast into the water. He had time to think things over during the three days and nights he spent inside the fish, and when the fish spit him out on dry land he went to Nineveh.

His preaching caused the king of Nineveh to repent and he told his subjects also to repent and pray to God after fasting and prayer, that perhaps their sins would be forgiven and God wouldn't destroy them. Yes, God saw their repentance and good works, and He, too, changed His mind and did not destroy them as He had thought first to do.

It is the same with us, if we do not heed God's call to service surely we will be destroyed. But if we serve Him and live a life of dedication to Him, He will also save us as He did Nineveh. Will you answer the call?

Make a Mark of Merit

By Nathan Lawson

Greetings to all our young people again. It is a blessing to be able to greet you each month through the Mark of Merit Program, which is sponsored by the National FYC. Many reports for the second quarter, April 1—June 30, have been sent in. If you have not sent your report in, send it in now. Next month's *Aim* will carry a full report on the participants in this program up to July 1, 1966. This report will cover one-half of the 1966 Mark of Merit year.

We need to set our goals high in this program and in everything we

do for Jesus Christ. "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men" (Col. 3: 23). Christ demands the best of us, even as young people. So let us set our goals in Christain living, service to God and His Church, and in soul winning for Christ, higher than ever before. Then let us reach those goals, so that the work of God might go forward until the time when His Son will return again to this earth.

May God bless each of you as Youth in the Church of God.

Remember, watch next month for a full report covering the Mark of Merit Program.

news and reminders . . .

National Youth Week

The booklets for the 1966 Youth Week have been mailed out to local leaders. The time selected is September 21-25. Make plans immediately for this. If you won't be prepared for the suggested time, don't cancel this activity; but work out some special plans for a later date.

Consider a guest speaker, a banquet, and a weekend retreat. Where weekend retreats have been well planned and used, it has been of greater benefit than at first anticipated.

Change of Address

Our national FYC chairman, Dale Lawson, has a new address now. Mail should be addressed to: 515 Park St., Stanberry, Missouri.

Award Available

The Lighthouse Award is available to the local FYC that has had an active program throughout the year and has qualified for points on the Merit System. With October begins the last quarter, and the Lighthouse winner will be determined by the activity of this last quarter. Have a business meeting now and plan ahead for a good program. If you don't win the Award, the satisfaction of the service for the eternal reward is still worth our best efforts.

VIEWPOINT

Dorothy P. Albaugh

"What dreadful thorns on the roses!"
The pessimist sadly cries.
But the optimist looks about him
With a wondering, sweet surprise.
"Why, even the thorns are blooming!"
He whispers, with shining eyes.
Whatever the heart is seeking
Will come to it—friends or foes—
As it sees the blossoming briarbush
Or the thorns on the stem of the
rose.

—*Sunshine*

* * *

BIGGER VOICE TAKES OVER

Homer Berry, self-proclaimed rain-maker, was taking credit for ending a summer-long drought in Arkansas in a radio program yesterday.

He said he had put chemicals in the air last week to do the job, and since that time Little Rock has had more than 10 inches of rain.

Just then the program was knocked off the air by lightning.

—*Kansas City Star*

* * *

Wisdom does not show itself so much in precept as in life—in firmness of mind and a mastery of appetite. It teaches us to do as well as to talk; and to make our words and actions all of a color.—Seneca.

LEARNING

If learning fills your mind with doubt
In God and His great Word of truth,
Then you are surely headed out,
Though you may be a brilliant youth;
Yes, headed out from true success
That ought to crown your life and soul,
And headed down, we must confess,
Where no great names are on the roll.

If learning makes you less a man
In honesty and truth and grace,
And doesn't help you wisely plan
To better fill in life your place,
You've studied in destructive schools
Whose themes and theories led you wrong,
Or you have found a set of rules
That made you weak instead of strong.

If learning fills your heart with greed,
Or makes you lazy on life's way,
And you go forth to sow bad seed
Which you shall reap some future day,
You've missed the mark, my fellow dear,
Where men stand highest on the line,
Therefore the future holds but fear,
Unless you seek for grace Divine.

The science and the themes of men
That undermine one's faith in God,
Though written by some wily pen
Which we may think is very odd,
Are better far to leave unknown
Along the atheistic views,
Than taken in upon life's throne
That cause mankind their souls to lose.

If learning doesn't fill your mind
With noble thoughts and worthy plans,
And doesn't help your soul to find
The God whose truth forever stands;
And doesn't help you reach the shore
Where saints and sages ever dwell,
Then you'll regret for evermore
The themes that led you down to hell.

—*Walter E. Isenhour*