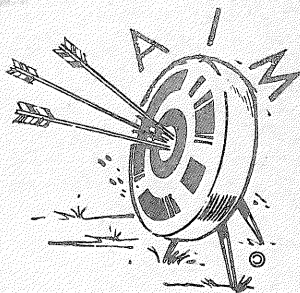


# Aim

*The magazine for young people*

**YOU DID IT!!**



**YOU AIMED FOR GOALS!!**

**WE AIMED FOR GOALS!!**

**"EVERYBODY" AIMED FOR GOALS!!**

**—and it really happened!!**

Our goal was to get 250 new subscriptions. We are happy to report that during this year in which we promoted our "AIM for Goals" campaign, more than 500 new subscriptions were received. THANKS FOR YOUR GOOD HELP AND SUPPORT!!

\* \* \*

. . . And now, lest we be like the rich man who was satisfied with his accomplishments and said, "Soul, . . . take thine ease . . .," let us continue to promote AIM.

The present need is to encourage the renewal of expired AIM subscriptions which cause the file to drop back even after a good promotion like we had in 1969.

Encourage your own local FYCers to renew. Also, your local group may wish to consider sponsoring the renewal of a specific number of subscriptions.



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BRADEN ACRES  
GRADE SCHOOL

# The Challenge of the "NOW" generation

Today a whole new generation of young people is making itself heard in America and in the world. This generation includes the so-called hippies, but it also includes many college students who are diligently studying toward a degree. Some college student-body presidents are included. This group of young people is characterized by various ways of dress and general appearance. I was about to say "unusual" ways, but these manners have become so widespread now that we can hardly call them unusual anymore. But they are different from what has been commonly accepted by the majority of middle-class adults—referred to by this new youth group as "the establishment." This new youth group considers that they are progressive and up-to-date.

by

Stanely J. Kauer

## Contents of This Issue

The Challenge of the "NOW" Generation <i>S. J. Kauer</i> .....	page 3
The Scarlet Cord <i>Dorothy Nimchuk</i> .....	page 6
Teen Guidelines—Why Attend Church? <i>Kenneth Knoll</i> .....	page 10
\$1,000 <i>Willard W. Wiebe</i> .....	page 12
Parable of the Quilt <i>Carolyn Clements</i> .....	page 16
Meet Your Committeemen <i>Gladys McCoy</i> .....	page 17
Birth Announcements <i>Houston—Coweta—Austin— Hammondville</i> .....	page 18
Scrolls of Hope—That Personal Touch <i>Editor</i> .....	page 21
Texas Youth Retreat .....	page 23
Youth Doctrine Corner <i>MBC Bible Doctrines Class</i> ...	page 25
The Certificate <i>Mary Holbert</i> .....	page 27
Mark of Merit <i>Nathan Lawson</i> .....	page 29
The Promise <i>Connie Johnston</i> .....	page 25
2T4G—Take Time for God <i>Martha Ling</i> .....	page 30
Minuteman <i>Michael D. Vlad</i> .....	page 32
News and Reminders .....	page 33

## Aim The magazine for young people

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

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Hope E. Dais, Editor

COVER PICTURES: Newly-organized FYC in Houston, Texas. Lower picture: Aaron Puente, Priscilla Banda, Maricella Mellardo, and Ruben Banda, officers. Upper picture: Pedro Garza, Amparo Davila and Mr. and Mrs. Adelberto Davila, sponsors.

They say they are up with the times—the “now” generation.

What are some other things which characterize this so-called “now” generation? For one thing, the men wear their hair longer than has been usual. In some cases, they wear it shoulder length and it is difficult to tell the boys from the girls. Girls often have their hair still longer and hanging straight and stringy, showing little evidence of grooming. Beards are another feature, often in various extreme styles. Other features of the “now” generation are strange and brightly-colored clothing and large and odd-shaped glasses. The more extreme of the group often do not wear shoes, do not keep clean, have low morals, and use drugs such as LSD. All of the groups seem to prefer a loud mixture of strange sounds with a strong beat—referred to as “music.” As a group, they reject adult direction or guidance. And as for religion, they consider it definitely out—a part of the old, out-dated establishment.

#### THE BIBLE PREDICTED THIS GENERATION

This so-called “now” generation is quite well described in 2 Timothy 3. Here the Bible speaks of a time when people would be “. . .boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection . . .incontinent . . .despisers of those that

are good” (vs. 2, 3). Many leave their homes and become very disobedient to their parents. They seem to have little or no natural affection. They do not care what their parents think of them for they think of the parents as being in the past generation of old fogies. They are surely “unholy” for they have no use for any kind of religion. And they are incontinent (which means immoral). And they also despise, and have no use for, the right standards taught by the Bible—standards of cleanliness, decency, and order. The advice of the Apostle Paul after describing this class of people is, “from such turn away.”

#### EVILS OF THE “ESTABLISHMENT”

Many of the young “mod” generation say the reason they reject traditional standards is because of the hypocrisy and dishonesty of the older generation (which they call “the establishment”).

Many of the older people teach honesty, but are dishonest in their business dealings.

Some decry the low moral standards of the young, yet are themselves immoral.

In religion they call for the conversion and reform of the youth, but their own religion is merely a form. The church too often is just an elite club for social activities. And the government which is supposed to be “of the people, by the people, and for the people” is far too

often corrupt. It is certainly true that “evil men and seducers” are becoming worse and worse and that the world is filled with deception, as foretold in 2 Timothy 3:13.

#### TODAY’S CHALLENGE TO YOUTH

Today the need is for youth who are *truly* of a Now generation, seeking to make things better instead of worse. Now is the time to face the realities and understand the cause of the bad world situation. The real Now generation understands that we live in a Now time, a time of present-day opportunity for progressive, worthy action. We live in the great time of scientific wonders. There is vast knowledge about everything, but very little wisdom. God’s blessings are poured out as never before, but there is less faith in God and less true worship. Now is the time to call for and set an example for right living.

The Now generation should listen to the Bible instruction found in 1 Timothy 4:12, “Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” In other words, do not live in an evil way or a questionable way so that older people have cause to condemn. Do not let the shortcomings of the older ones cause you to throw off all restraints. Rather set an example. First be a real believer in the Lord and in His Word. Then let your daily conversation show it. In a world

out to get all it can for self, show charity or a willingness to help others. It is pretty hard to find any basis for faith in the world, but remember God our Creator; have faith in Him. Recognize the human, moral weaknesses and determine true, moral values for your life.

The message of Christ was and is always to the Now generation. He called people to follow Him then—and He calls you and me, now! Not next week or next month or next year, but Now! Think things through and ask God to help. He will show us what is truly good and worthwhile in ways of life. The “now” time we live in is the time very near to the second coming of Christ and His kingdom. The youth who are really “with it” live now so that they may also live with Christ then.

And so instead of rejecting and opposing traditional standards, let us improve them by living lives that are real. With judgment, guided by prayer, let us choose our ways—in appearance, in activities, and in morals. Let us know the difference between the passing fad and the eternal value. And also let us remember that the most important “now” is the time of salvation. “Behold now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation” (2 Cor. 6:2).

Don’t think you are necessarily on the right road because it is a well-beaten path.

# The Scarlet

Losing themselves in the milling throng, the two strangers slipped unnoticed through the city gates. The market place was crowded. Farmers had brought their wares to be sold. Women in brightly colored attire tended their stalls where they were carrying on a brisk trade. Other women wended their way to and from the town well, water jars balanced on their heads.

"The wall is strong, Salmon," commented one of the young men. "And thick," he added.

"Of a truth," replied Salmon, his sharp glance taking in everything in sight. "See how there are houses built upon the top of the wall."

"Yes," agreed his friend. "That one appears to be an inn. Perhaps we should lodge there for the night! It will soon be dark."

"Excellent. We should be able to get a good view of the city there." Salmon led the way toward the narrow stairs which wound up the side of the wall to the inn.

Two women paused in their drawing of water. "Business is good for Rahab," one spoke viciously. "See, two more birds for her nest."

The other laughed. "You are jealous, Maria," she accused, and laughed again as a red flush spread over her neighbor's wrinkled old face. "Once you were young and beautiful too."

"There is something different about those two," commented Maria to hide her frustration. "They are strangers to this part of the country."

"Many travelers pass this way. You are imagining all sorts of things," chuckled her friend. "Next you will say they are spies. It is said the Israelites are camped the other side Jordan."

"Spies! Yes, that's it." A triumphant gleam came into her eyes. "I'll report them to the king as spies and say that Rahab is protecting them." Hefting her water jar upon her head with one swift movement, Maria strode away, intent on her mission, sure in the knowledge she would succeed. The fear of the Israelites had gone before them throughout all the land.

Watching her leave, the other woman shrugged her shoulders. It was nothing to her whether Rahab got into trouble with the authorities or not. She must hurry home as it was nearing supper time.

Salmon and Jason were soon settled

# Cord

by Dorothy Nimchuk



in their room in Rahab's home. "Joshua will be pleased with our report," said Salmon.

"Yes," echoed Jason, "provided we are able to get safely out of the city."

"Do not fret, Jason," urged Salmon. "We must trust the Lord for He has promised to be with our armies when we come to possess the land. We must remember how our fathers wandered forty years through the wilderness because of unbelief," he warned.

"I would like to know how the people feel about us," said Jason. "I wonder if we could get any information out of this young woman. . . ."

"Her name is Rahab," offered Salmon, interrupting. "She seems bitter towards the townspeople. I think we could speak with her."

"Hmmm," mused Jason, "it did not take long for you to discover her name. She is very beautiful," he teased.

"Quiet," ordered Salmon, "She is coming."

The approaching footsteps halted outside their doorway and a mellow voice called them to the evening meal.

Rahab served them in silence as

they ate of the delicious fruit of the land. Their praise of the meal was generous indeed. By the time they finished, darkness had fallen. Rahab spoke.

"You men are not of this country." The words were more of a statement than question.

"No," admitted Salmon, deciding swiftly to trust her. "We are Israelites and Joshua has sent us to spy out the land."

Rahab uttered a low gasp, but her gaze did not waver. "So be it," she said, resignation in her tone. "Your God has given you the land."

Jason glanced out through the window over the town. "Salmon," he whispered. "There are men with torches heading this way. They are even now at the foot of the stairs."

"Soldiers!" said Rahab. "Quickly," she ordered. "This way to the roof." They followed, asking no questions. "Hide under these stalks of flax which I am drying. I'll send them away." Without a backward glance she returned to the main living quarters just as a loud knock sounded on the door.

"Bring forth the men which were seen entering your house. Order of the king of Jericho," proclaimed the

foremost officer. "They be spies sent to search out all the land."

Rahab turned her brightest smile on the beholder. "I would do so if it were possible, most noble servant of our great king," she curtsied slightly. "The men you seek were here. They demanded food and I gave them to eat. Then, as it was getting dark, toward the time of the shutting of the gates, they went out. I know not where they went. You must pursue after them quickly," she added.

"Thanks to you, my pretty one," answered the soldier. "Would that I could stay here with you while my fellows go after these spies."

"Thou must go quickly before they are too far ahead," urged Rahab. "The man who finds them will be in high favor with our king."

Reluctantly, the man turned and hurried away with the others. Rahab made a face at the retreating figures and closed the door.

"Open the gate," shouted the soldiers. Rahab listened while the great doors in the wall swung open and shut. "By the time they search the five miles to the ford of the Jordan and come back with no trace of spies, two or three days will have passed," said Rahab to herself. She hurried back to the roof.

"Sirs," she called softly, "they've gone! I told them you had left by the gates before they were shut for the night."

Salmon rose, brushing flax from his coat as he did so. He gave Rahab a grateful look. "We have not words to thank you, Rahab," he said. "Thou hast done us great service."

"Yes," echoed Jason, scrambling out from cover, "and our armies, too."

"I know the Lord hath given you the land. Your terror is fallen upon us. All the people fear your armies," said Rahab. "We have heard tell of how the waters of the Red Sea dried up when your people came out of Egypt. We know what ye did to the two kings of the Amorites on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye destroyed utterly."

"Yea, God has been with us mightily," declared Salmon.

"When our people heard of all the exploits of your armies, our hearts did quake, and there remained no courage within us. The Lord your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath."

"Of a surety He is a wonderful God," Jason spoke with conviction.

"You will be in danger here, Rahab," said Salmon quietly. "You must get away. The soldiers will think you have helped us."

"I can handle them," declared Rahab.

"Yes," Jason added, "but our armies will spare no one of the city."

"Swear unto me by the Lord, that since I have shown kindness unto you, thou wilt also do likewise for me and my father's house. Give me a true token that you will save alive my father, my mother, and my brethren and my sisters and all that they have," pleaded Rahab.

"Our life for yours," said Salmon solemnly.

"Mind you now," added Jason, "do not mention word of this to anyone."

Rahab led the men back down from the roof. "I will let you down the wall from this window," she told them. The small opening overlooked the plains of Jericho. They would not have to go out through the gates.

"Here is a scarlet cord. It should work well."

As the two men prepared to leave, Salmon admonished, "When we return with our armies, tie this same scarlet cord in your window so it can be plainly seen. Bring your father and mother, your sisters and brothers into your home, and all that they have. Whoever is in this house will be saved alive. If anyone goes out of the house during the siege, we will not be answerable for what happens."

"See you do not reveal this our business to anyone," Jason's voice was firm. "If you do, then we are released from our oath to save your family alive."

"All you have spoken, will I do," promised Rahab. "Go quickly now. Get into the mountains and hide three days until your pursuers have returned from following after you. Here are some provisions for your

journey," she said, thrusting a bundle into Salmon's hands, "and may God be with you."

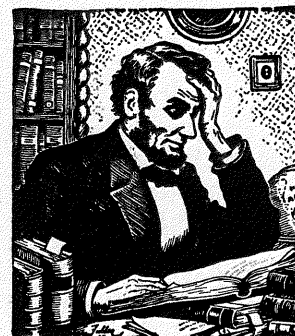
"May God be with you also," said Salmon. With a quick pressure of his hand on hers, he was gone, out the window, and hand-over-hand down the cord to the ground. Jason had already descended. Rahab leaned far out the window and watched until she could no longer see them in the darkness.

(CONTINUED NEXT MONTH)

#### WITHIN MYSELF

I find not solace without faith  
That life was meant for me.  
The right to happiness is mine.  
But it will never be,  
Until I find within myself  
The song to fill my years  
With love instead of bitterness—  
With peace instead of fears.

—Sunshine

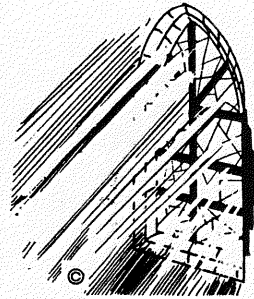


One of the most interesting and touching incidents of which I have ever heard is connected with the memory of one of the greatest and noblest men of all times—Abraham Lincoln. In company with some other candidates who were out on a political campaign in the wild West, he saw in the woods near the close of the day some baby birds that had been blown out of their nest. Asking to be allowed to get down from the carriage, which passed on ahead, Mr. Lincoln picked up the tiny creatures and restored them to their little home.

On reaching the inn, he was asked the cause of his delay, and astonished his hearers by telling them of his humane act, declaring that, had he not returned the birdies to their mother's care, he could not sleep at night. What a tender, loving heart!

—H. P. S. Perry in *Treasure Chest of Memories*

### Why Attend Church?



by Kenneth Knoll

In recent years it has become increasingly difficult to find families who are regular church attenders. Church registers show church membership to be many times more than weekly attendance would indicate. Why is there this lack of church attendance? Many reasons, including the following, have been given for this drop-off. Some of this may be a result of the "there is no God" movement. If there is no God, why should people go to church? Others claim that they can be close to God anywhere. This is, indeed, a true statement but they use this reason as a cover-up. Later we will discuss why this is a poor excuse. Others blame their lack of church at-

tendance on the type of people who belong to the church. Probably you could add many more excuses to this list but all excuses are as poor as these.

Recently a young man was relating experiences of his childhood as a "preacher's kid." During this conversation, he showed a great deal of bitterness concerning church congregations in general. Finally, he said that he did not go to church for the simple reason that churches are full of hypocrites. He related incidents of ladies quarreling over who should play the organ—one perhaps feeling bad because she was not selected to be organist. Other people's exhibiting petty jealousy over holding church offices further

alienated this young man. Although he no longer attends church, he says that he still maintains his belief in God; however, his life does not exemplify a life full of the blessings of God.

Perhaps we can learn two lessons from this story. First of all, what a pitiful excuse his was. Everyday he is surrounded by so-called hypocrites. Yet he does not withdraw from society. He belongs to social clubs that have more of these individuals than any church and yet he would not think of withdrawing from these. But to him this is a rational excuse. Secondly, perhaps we should examine our own lives to see if we might be the person who is discouraging others.

Talk to some of your friends to see why they do not go to church—or if you are guilty, state your reasons. Then examine these reasons to see how logical they are. I think that you will be surprised.

Why should we attend church? Is it really necessary? Are Christians commanded to attend? These are some of the questions that must be answered. Let me state first that nowhere in the Bible are we commanded to go to church, but that does not lessen the importance of church attendance. The main scripture found in the Bible relating to church attendance is found in Hebrews 10:25. It states, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so

much the more as you see the day approaching." If we examine the rest of this chapter, we will see that Paul is encouraging the Hebrews to remain steadfast, and one way that he suggests for doing this is by meeting together.

Talk to any isolated member of the church and you will see how important it is to have fellowship with those of like faith. Talk to students who are the only Church of God members within their school. Ask them which friends they enjoy most—their school friends or their church friends. Perhaps one of the best reasons any of us has for attending church is a very selfish one—simply because we need it to help us stay faithful. It is so easy to falter when we are away from church people. We all need that boost that comes from Christian fellowship at least once a week. Sure we can worship God anywhere, but we cannot get Christian fellowship just anywhere.

Now, I would like to share a testimony with you. Recently in Conroe, we had a testimony service concerning what church means to us as individuals. One man stated, "You can grab a sandwich and a pickle and eat it on the run, but it is just not the same as putting your feet under the table and enjoying your meal together with your family. It is the same way with our worship to God. It is just not the same if you do not feast upon the fellowship of God and His family." What a

*(Continued on page 34)*

# \$1,000

by Willard W. Wiebe

**H**E was just a farmer. Thirty years is a long time for a man to live in one place, but he liked that farm. It was as much a part of him as the way he combed his hair or tied his shoes. A man doesn't change much after giving the best years of his life to farming.

He would always like the smell of hay. He would always like the feel of grain running through his fingers. The seasons of the year—seed-time and harvest, summer and winter—were the very rhythm of life for him. He would never be any different. Someday he might have to leave the farm, but the farm could never leave him.

He was a Christian.

He believed in the Lord. His life was anchored in spiritual values. His Christian experience was real and sacred. He accepted God's salvation by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He loved the church and gave of himself freely in time and talent. He wasn't the kind to do a lot of talking, but he was as dependable as

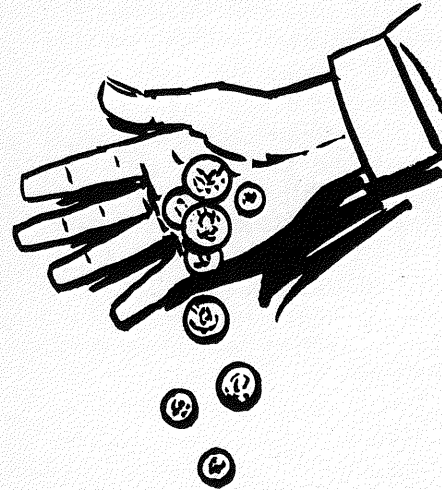
*Is it possible that I would attempt to do for money, even at the risk of blunder or ridicule, what I hesitate to do for God?*

the sun. He was the church treasurer.

One rainy day early in spring, he picked up his church paper and read these words:

Suppose someone were to offer me \$1,000 for every soul I might try to win to Christ. Would I endeavor to lead any more souls to Christ than I am doing now? Is it possible that I would attempt to do for money, even at the risk of blunders or ridicule, what I hesitate to do or shrink from doing now, in obedience to God's command? Is my love of money stronger than my love for God or for souls? How feeble then my love for God! Perhaps this explains why I am not a soul winner.

This started him thinking. He went out to his work that afternoon with this seed planted in his heart. He was a generous man, but he also knew money values. He knew what he would do if someone offered him \$1,000



for every soul he tried to win to Christ. All excuses would be brushed aside. Somehow he would overcome his timidity. There would be no doubt about it. He would become an ardent sower of the Word if \$1,000 would be his for every endeavor he made to win men to the Lord.

† WEEKS WENT BY. The seed sprouted. It crept into his prayers. He thought of people.

There was a neighbor to the north who never went to church. He wasn't a bad sort of man at all.

There was a bachelor farmer living alone just around the hill. He lived in open rebellion against God and man.

There were also weekly contacts with professional men, salesmen and chance acquaintances. Oh, there had been times in the past when the subject of Christianity had come up in their conversation, but he had

never talked to a man with the intention of leading him to faith in Christ. He had never even had the desire to do this. And now these people appeared in his prayers.

THE QUESTION WOULDN'T LEAVE him. Would he seek to present Christ to someone if he were offered \$1,000 for every time he tried? Would he do for money what he would not do for God? This thought haunted him. He wanted to be honest with himself.

But he was puzzled. How does a man go about it? What would he do first? What if he were laughed at? Suppose there were questions too hard for him to answer?

One day his pastor pulled up along the roadside where he was working in the field. After a bit of light talk, he shared his concern with his pastor. They talked for an hour, and after supper he drove into town to get some books his pastor had promised him.

THE LIGHT BURNED LATE IN HIS den that night. He was so impressed with some of his reading that he copied a few paragraphs on cards and kept them on his desk. He read them often.

One he copied was this: If there were only one real Christian in the world and he required a whole year to win another to Christ, and these two took another year to win two more; if these four required another twelve months to win four more; if the work continued at

this rate, in only thirty-five years our task of winning the world would be completed. Of course we can convert no one, for that is the work of the Holy Spirit, but everyone should have the opportunity to hear the gospel and to accept Christ in our generation.

The logic of it all became irresistible. The little seed-thought that had been planted weeks ago had taken root and was now a "tree" of such proportions that it could not be moved. Questions that he had at first no longer puzzled him. The more he read and prayed, the more sure he became of one thing: Method and technique are of far less significance than we sometimes think. Inner motive is the important thing. We should start with the condition of the heart.

The early days of summer promised a good harvest. Long hours and days spent on the tractor were showing now in clean rows.

ONE DAY HE WAS WORKING IN the north field. As he came to the fence, he noticed that his neighbor had stopped to fix his cultivator. He stopped and shut off his tractor.

There were the usual greetings and small talk about the weather. Then the neighbor heard him say, "We certainly have much for which to be thankful! Our country, our homes, our health, and our farms. . . . When you stop to think of it, God has been good to us."

For a moment the neighbor looked surprised. "Yes," he said slowly, "I suppose that's true."

"You know," the farmer went on, "I've been thinking, that if we believe God has given us these things, He must be interested in us. He must have concern for us. And if God is interested in man, then He must have a reason for being interested. I believe God loves man, don't you?"

There was no response from across the fence. The neighbor was quiet. He put his wrench back into the tool box. Sighing, he sat down on the drawbar.

"You and I are different," he said. "We've known each other for a long time. You live as though you've found life's secret. You act as though you had confidence in the future." He paused. Then, in a quieter voice, he said, "Frankly, I live in fear."

It seemed almost as though a dam had broken. Words began to flow as the pressure of years was released.

"You talk about God's love for man. I think I'd agree, but the difference between you and me is that you've experienced this love and I haven't. Outwardly, we're no different. I'm as good a man as you are. But somehow life is based on different principles for us."

He paused again, as though expecting a reply but not really wanting one. Then he spoke slowly and with sudden earnestness.

"I've been wondering if I'm

**"I don't remember anything he said but I remember he cared."**

too old to start going to church. I've been thinking about your church. What would your people say if I came?"

‡ IT HAD BEEN A GOOD HARVEST. The people sang the opening hymn with feeling. The church was decorated in the rich colors of fall and over the chancel were the words of their Harvest Festival theme: "For God So Loved the World." It was a festive time. The harvest offering would be for two special causes: missions and the building fund for the new, larger church. There was also to be a baptism that morning.

The pastor spoke. "Dear friends, we've looked forward to this baptismal service. But before the service, we would like our brother and sister to give their testimonies."

Slowly the elderly couple rose to their feet. Their faces shone with the light of heaven

and their eyes were brimming with joy.

First she spoke. Her words were a simple and warm expression of faith in Christ and experience of the pardon of sin. Then he spoke.

"Early this spring, I was troubled. I knew my life was empty. And one day, when I was feeling low and having trouble in the field, my neighbor spoke to me. I don't remember anything he said but I remember he cared. That was the beginning. Today I am so happy to say I have experienced the love of God in the Lord Jesus Christ. I know I'm not worthy, but I dedicate what's left of my life to Him!"

That evening as the church treasurer counted the harvest thanks offering, he came upon a check and stopped. For a long while, he sat with bowed head and closed eyes.

It was a check from the new member—for \$1,000.

—Moody Monthly

## TWO FAMOUS MEN

Now is the time we celebrate the birthdays of two men.  
One was the father of our land, honored now as then.  
The other one came later on, when strife ruled o'er our land.  
He fought to free the slaves, and save the nation so 'twould stand.  
Both Washington and Lincoln were devoted to their work.  
Their lives were filled with service; no duty could they shirk.  
If we would be like these two men, whose names rise o'er the rest,  
Then we, like they, should start when young, to do each task the best.



# Parable of the Quilt

by Carolyn Clements

Finally Grandma said she would teach me how to make a quilt! For many days I sorted through piles of patterns just trying to decide which one I liked the best and wanted the most. At first I thought I preferred one particular kind; then, after a while, I decided I'd rather have another type of design; and, at last, I settled upon one pattern out of the whole box.

Then Grandma helped me take stock of what we had to work with; there seemed to be more than enough materials, so we began our work at once.

Sometimes fitting the materials into the design was difficult. I wanted to use a lot of the yellow gingham, but the remnant pieces were just not large enough to distribute as liberally as I had hoped.

On the other hand, we had plenty of plain, blue fabric. We made the best of that, though, and scattered it around the bright gingham—the effect wasn't bad at all! In fact, they brought out the beauty in each other.

For some reason I always seemed to cut some pieces of the gay, flowery prints too large, so we would have to take out the shears again and snip them down to size. They seemed to be more deceiving than the solid materials and constantly threw me off.

Next came the task of trying to fit in all the perfectly good pieces of durable solids. I wanted to include some of every color but it turned out to be impossible, and Grandma had me go through them all and pick out the ones I had my heart set on the most and best fit into the pattern. The rest I had to discard reluctantly as scraps.

And then she helped me painstakingly assemble all the little, carefully chosen pieces. Sometimes the work was hard, other times it was tedious and got on my nerves, and there were times, too, when I felt so discouraged that I just wanted to give up completely and wished I'd never chosen such a difficult pattern.

But when the quilt was completed, I surveyed the beautiful design I had made with Grandma's help (I never could have done it without her!); and then I realized that it was worth every long hour I'd put into it—all the mistakes I'd made and corrected (with Grandma's help and encouragement), all the careful selections and patient fittings.

At last the beautiful pattern I had selected was embodied in the quilt itself.

And so is our life like the making of this quilt.

# Meet Your Committeemen

Gladys McCoy attended both Spring Vale Academy and Midwest Bible College. She later served very capably as secretary at the Publishing House. Since then, both in Oregon (where she and her family lived for several years) and in Conroe, Texas, where they now live, her enthusiastic help has been a real boost in many youth endeavors.



Last spring, on a beautiful day, I was shocked to hear on the "News at Noon" on the radio that tornado warnings were out for our area. Usually one can tell by looking outside that the possibility of tornados exists. It is usually rainy, windy and quite dark. However, the warnings were out, and the day looked like a perfect day. Somehow I couldn't feel the apprehension I usually feel when these warnings are out.

Then I thought of world conditions. Everything looks lovely, and it's hard for us to really realize the end is near. Most of us are living "the good life"—plenty to eat, modern homes, and so many conveniences never dreamed of a few years ago. Because of this near-perfect life, we, too, find it hard to believe the "Storm Warnings."

Young people are caught up in living life to the fullest. This is a natural part of youth. What a blessing it is when this love of life is channeled in the right direction. There is no sweeter sound than the voices of many young people blended together in songs praising the Lord. The Youth Tour this summer was such a tremendous blessing to all the young people as well as the older ones. It is wonderful to see our young people united in purpose for the Lord's work. When the young people sing and study and pray together at our Youth Camps and Retreats, I believe this fellowship makes each individual a stronger witness when he is alone in service for the Lord.

Back of the gathering storm clouds is truly a "silver lining" for the people of God. Young people, let's be sure to take the "Storm Warnings" seriously even though life seems carefree, and we feel quite self-sufficient now. The time is coming soon when we will realize our complete dependence on God. The blessings gained from living close to God now are certainly great, but the greatest blessing of all will be when the Lord returns and we are ready to meet Him.

## Birth Announcements . . .

### FOUR NEWLY ORGANIZED FYC GROUPS!

#### HOUSTON, TEXAS SPANISH CHURCH

Hear ye, hear ye! A resurrection of FYCs. We say resurrection not because we were inactive, but because we have joined a new program.

Before we reorganized, we worked on different projects in our local and neighboring churches. Visiting and raising funds for many needs of the church were only part of our activities. For example, we helped build part of the local church building and we bought a piano for the local church. Most of our young people also participate in the Houston choir. Recently we started a project of visiting young people at Corpus Christi, Texas. For the first time we had the privilege of participating in the Texas Youth Retreat. This truly made us feel the unity of the Good Spirit.

This was before reorganizing our FYC. Now that we have joined the Mark of Merit Program, we will try our best to meet the standards.

2 Thessalonians 3:1 says, "Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:" We would like to ask all FYCers and readers of AIM to pray for us so that we may be better witnesses and always be about our Father's business.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always



The recently organized group of FYCers in Houston, Texas.

abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

We here at Coweta organized the FYC at our last meeting. The meeting was held January 11, 1970.

#### COWETA, OKLAHOMA

The young people have been holding meetings with programs here for some time. We need very much printed matter so that we can have some guidelines to follow. Please send what you think we need. We need all the help we can get. We all want to share in the work of our Saviour.

We have a number of young people. Six of them are joining the Evangelette Program. Remember us in your prayers and may God bless you all and keep you always.

The Austin FYC was organized early last fall. We started off our activities with a rummage sale which put \$32 in our treasury. We later used part of this money to buy two *AIM* subscriptions and one *Sabbath School Missionary* for young people in our church who were not receiving these publications. We also financed one young person's way to the Texas Youth Retreat in December.

#### AUSTIN, TEXAS

This month we published the first of our newsletters which we hope to make a monthly project since we have young people in our area who seldom have a way to attend our meetings and we wish to draw them into our efforts. We hope to have projects in which they can participate more fully.

There are six members in our FYC. The president is Leland Sweet. Priscilla Crisp is the secretary-treasurer and Cheryl Sweet is Devotions Chairman. (At this time we have no group pictures of our members.)

We were organized too late in the year to participate in the Mark of Merit Program (or so we believed) but we would like to participate in the program this year. We would appreciate any material you could send us on this program.

As the new year of 1969 rolled around, so did the start of a new FYC. This time way down south in Alabama, at a small town called Hammondville. Not one member lives at Hammondville, but that is where the church is located. At the start of the year, the club had only 11 members, but God has blessed our small group to grow to 28. The "rookie" group does have its problems, however. The main one is distance. The average distance per FYCer is about 40 miles probably because 12 live over 50 miles away. But our parents are kind enough and good enough to get us to our activities.

#### HAMMONDVILLE, ALABAMA

The Hammondville FYC has enjoyed many activities. Of course, the trip

we made to the General Conference Camp Meeting was one of our biggest thrills. But the entire year was full of activities and projects. The first part of '69 was mainly concentrated on raising funds in order to go to camp meeting. This was done with the help of our sponsors. (—More like, the FYCers *helping* the sponsors!) They helped us to sell Danny Duzits (cleaning pads), candy, cakes, pies, Marion Kay, more Marion Kay, and more Marion Kay! Anyway, it was all a lot of fun, and everyone really enjoyed it! We were also favored with the Youth Team's making a presentation to the church! They were simply fantastic!

In the latter part of the year we mainly concentrated on giving out tracts (2,500 of them!) Sometimes it is an advantage to live far apart!

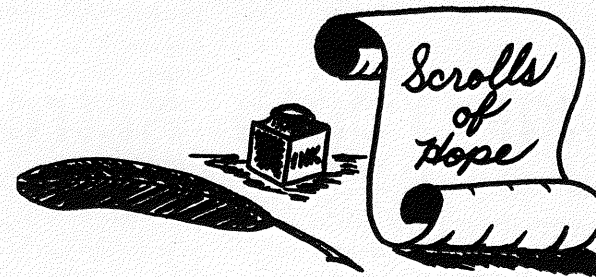
Hopefully we will have the first Southeastern Youth Camp in June. In November, we had a youth retreat. It was a real blessing to everyone. But the ironic (???) thing of it all is that the greatest thing the Hammondville FYC accomplished was not the socials, or trips, or any of the projects, but it was simply to learn to understand ourselves a little better, to have good fun in a Christian way, and most of all, to bring us all just a little closer to the greatest gift around—that of the love of God!!

#### GOOD WANTS

- I want a few sincere friends who understand my loneliness, yet remain loyal when I am silent.
- I want a growing capacity to understand and respond to the unuttered sufferings of others, knowing that they fight as hard a battle against many odds, even as I.
- I want a mind unafraid to travel, though the trail is not blazed, and a heart willing to trust, even when faith seems the most unreasonable of all efforts.
- I want a sense of duty tempered with beauty; a conception of work as a privilege, an urge to justice mingled with mercy, and a feeling that responsibility is my debt for the opportunity of living in a day when great odds are at stake.
- I want a task to do which has abiding value, without which the lives of men would be poorer.
- I want a sense of humor and the genius to laugh; the grace to forgive and the humility to be forgiven; willingness to praise, and the freedom to enjoy a little leisure with tantalizing dreams.
- I want a glimpse of kneeling hillsides, the unresting sea, the horizon-enchanting plains, and the thrill of a few high-tangled birdnotes keenly thinned.
- I want a few wistful moments of quiet amid the garnish noises and fevered fret of the day; and when twilight flecks the close of day with spotted shadows, a sense of the presence of God!

—W. Waldenmar W. Argow  
in Sunshine

AIM



#### THAT PERSONAL TOUCH

In the business world today, many firms and individuals go to great length to give their sales approach a very personal touch. Parents receive advertising brochures, or even little booklets, from children's book clubs, in which their child's own personal name is seen throughout.

The successful salesman comes to a home well versed in the art of "first-name dropping." It is his business to call you, not just Mr. and Mrs. Collins, but Chuck and Betty. He knows the magic in using one's very own personal name.

While the sales letter may *sound* very personal, and one may even be influenced by its warmth, we realize that we are just another number among millions that run through the computer. And to the salesman, we're another average family whose good-will and acceptance are his bread and butter.

How strikingly the reverse is true concerning salvation. Regardless how personal we try to make salvation sound, we still cannot adequately express how *very* personal is God's love to *each* of us. It is beautifully expressed in the song, "He's big enough to rule the mighty universe; yet small enough to live within my heart."

It is touching to recall some of the incidents recorded in the Bible when the personal love and concern of Jesus were keenly felt. We read in Luke 19 about a short man who climbed a tree just to get a glimpse of this Jesus about Whom he had heard so much. What a thrill it was to this man when Jesus looked up at him and spoke his very own name, "Zaccheus, come down . . . for today I must abide at thy house." There was no "name-dropping" involved. Jesus was *personally interested* in this man, and Zaccheus had only to take the remaining step in Jesus' direction to become personally involved with this loving Saviour.

Just so He is interested in each of us personally.

We recall another incident—when Peter had three times denied that he was a friend to Jesus. Luke 22:61 records, "And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter." So much seems to be said in these few words. From them, one song writer was inspired to write an entire song, "He Tenderly Looked at Me."

(Continued on page 28)

# Texas Youth Retreat

The 1969 Texas Youth Retreat was truly a great climax to the decade of the 60's. From December 26-31, young people from, not only Texas, but all over the United States, came together in the wooded and rustic setting of Bastrop State Park located about 30 miles east of Austin, Texas. A very appropriate theme for this year's retreat caused one to look with retrospect into his life with regard to the decade of the 60's by asking, "The 70's: Will They Get You?"

The afternoon of the 26th was spent getting settled into the retreat living quarters. These were four buildings, each having the capacity to hold 28 persons. By the time the evening service was over, 70 young people had arrived. Ken Knoll, our camp director, was in charge of the evening service. Following his remarks concerning the purpose of the retreat, there was a general introduction of all present and the distribution of name tags to aid new acquaintances. The tract, "The Rich Man and Lazarus," was handed out to be studied prior to Sabbath school time in the morning.

Sabbath was a real blessing. After a fine breakfast provided by our cook, Lorraine Faubion and her helpers, a lively and interesting Sabbath school discussion was enjoyed. Jerry Moldenhauer was in charge. "Forget the Onions" was the topic of the sermon presented by Elder Dale Lawson, our featured speaker.

During the afternoon service it was inspiring to see young people from many different areas of the country combine their talents for the glorification of our Heavenly Father. One example of this was a quartet which consisted



of fellows from four different states. (And their singing was great!) There were over 130 people present, as many adults from surrounding churches enjoyed the service with us.

Supper consisted of roasted wieners and marshmallows around a large campfire in a very beautiful area of the park. Still gathered around the campfire, many blessings were ours as Elder Lawson presented the evening message.

Recreation that evening was provided by Charles Carr of the Conroe Church. This was a Bible quiz, during which an electronic signaling device indicated which contestant was the first to be ready with an answer. Six teams were chosen with six members in each team. The team members played against themselves to determine a team representative for the "final," which was to take place Sunday.

Sunday started off with morning devotions just before breakfast. Danny Davila and Mike Vlad directed this daily service. After breakfast, a group discussion was led by Elder Kenneth Lawson and Jerry Moldenhauer. The topic concerned the events of the decade of the 60's. —What will the 70's bring? —And how much should we get involved? This discussion was a real highlight of the retreat.

Perhaps an even greater highlight was the witnessing class which followed the group discussion. Elder Lawson, using the newly printed witnessing booklet put out by the Young People's Department, explained the value and necessity of being a witness. He then went on to describe various approaches and methods of witnessing by giving live illustrations via members of the group.

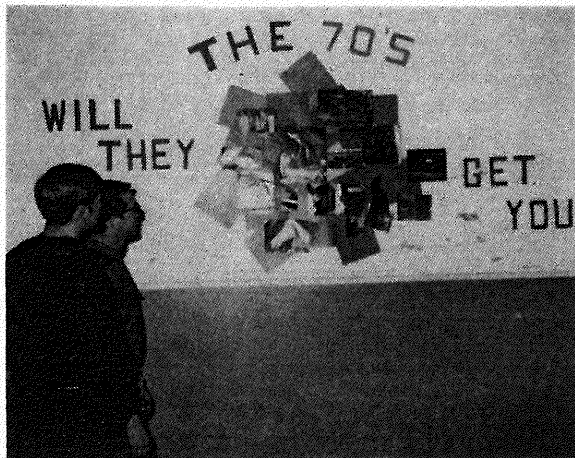
Sunday proved to be the best day for outdoor recreation and the boys made the most of it by playing a highly-spirited football game. This was to be

*Picture at left:  
One of the competing quiz teams with Mr. Carr (center) directing. Left to right: Linda Salmons, Tim Leach, Bill Taylor, Jeff Leach, Mrs. Jeff (Kathy) Leach, Paul Linville. Back row (extras): Glenn and Jerry Moldenhauer.*

*Picture at right:  
Pinyata game in progress.*



*Jerry Griffin and Larry Moore observe the theme of the retreat: "The 70's: Will They Get You?"*



somewhat regretted the next morning when most of the fellows were too stiff and sore to exercise any muscles without a great deal of effort and pain.

The evening supper was served Mexican style. To the delight of the campers, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Espinosa and others provided various Mexican dishes.

We were privileged to have one more campfire before adverse weather forced us inside. It was a chilly, damp night but God put a warmth in our hearts.

Recreation was in the form of pinyatas (which was an exciting experience) and the quiz "final." Each team representative was aided in certain questions by one other member of the team. The winner was Jerry Moldenhauer coached by Mike Vlad.

Monday was rainy and cold as far as weather was concerned, but morning devotions and a warm breakfast warmed us up. The discussion this morning was initiated by questions asked by the group concerning make-up, short skirts, movies, dating, sex, commandments, drugs and the head covering mentioned in 1 Corinthians 11.

Witnessing class was again a source of information and encouragement for all of us.

The damp weather outside did not dampen the fun enjoyed during the indoor afternoon recreation.

The inside service on this Monday evening brought a very special blessing in the form of many wonderful testimonies. They were tremendously inspiring—God was very close to us.

Tuesday was another wonderful day. Group discussion and witnessing class were concluded. Recreation was again indoors as was the evening service. Elder Ken Lawson brought us the evening message.

Several had left through Tuesday and by Wednesday noon the 1969 Texas Youth Retreat was only a memory.

What a memory it is, though! Good scenery, good food, a wonderful

attitude on the part of the campers, and God's loving spirit were all present. Especially great was the fellowship we enjoyed with those from other states. The states of Oregon, California, Michigan, Wisconsin and Missouri were all represented. Because a Spanish Conference held at nearby San Antonio just ended on Sunday, we benefited from the attendance of several Spanish young people who attended our retreat from Sunday on. Three were from Mexico. We would like to thank especially Brother and Sister Don Lawson for being a tremendous inspiration to all of us.

The 1969 annual winter youth retreat in Texas had to be one of the greatest ever. With God's help and guidance, the Texas FYC will climax every year greater than the one just passed. We are looking forward to another retreat in December 1970. Plan to be there!

## Youth Doctrine Corner

*"Ye shall know the truth  
and the truth shall make  
you free" (John 8:32).*



### PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Official Church of God Doctrine—Article No. 22

. . . "God hears and answers both the individual and the collective prayer of faith in behalf of the sick. It is also Scriptural for the sick to call for the elders of the church to anoint them with oil and pray for their recovery.

#### God's Power Over Diseases

. . . **Promise of health for obedience** (Exodus 15:26).  
. . . **Promise of healing for all diseases** (Psalm 103:3).

#### Prayers Made for the Sick Bring Results

. . . **Hezekiah's Prayer and Reward** (2 Kings 20:1-6).  
. . . **Apostles' Prayers and Results** (Acts 5:16).

#### Anointing with Oil—Biblical and Proper

. . . **Apostles' Example** (Mark 6:13; Acts 19:11, 12).  
. . . **Biblical Directive** (James 5:13-16).

#### Need for Faith and Action

. . . **More faith needed by most Christians.**  
. . . **Need for actively following these Biblical examples and directives.**

MBC BIBLE DOCTRINES CLASS



# The Certificate

by Mary Holbert

We, Alice and I, drove into town about ten o'clock this morning; parked the car and started walking. We were on a college campus and were seeking the right office to answer Alice's questions about a certificate. A girl we met directed us to the registrar's office. We found that and in so doing, Alice found unexpectedly, a friend of long standing who directed us to another building and another building and another office.

Through much asking for directions, walking, and hunting, we found the "long sought for" Dean's office. The Dean of the College of Education was the person to answer Alice's questions. He was the one who could evaluate Alice's college record and tell her how many college hours of work she would need to qualify for a secondary teaching certificate—her present one being in elementary education.

While Alice is in conference, I, Mary, am sitting here in the

lobby writing this down as I wait. In thinking back over our very common-place experience, I am reminded of the search that must go on to find another very important Person, the Lord. We have a guidebook, the Bible, to aid us in our quest for God, but some of us can't use it effectively. We need the aid of mature Christians to help us find the way to Him. The directions in the Bible and from others are to pray, to study, to listen to the explanation of the Bible, to understand the way of life. This finding the Lord and finding out that He is a personal Saviour is a wonderful experience.

But just as Alice must follow the advice of the Dean of Education in order to qualify for the teaching certificate she wants, so the person who finds the Lord must follow the advice, the words, and the example that Jesus left for us in the Holy Word in order to qualify for the Certificate of Eternal

Life. Just as Alice, if she refuses to follow through on the instruction she gets, will not get the certificate, so the person who refuses to follow the instruction of Jesus will not gain the reward of eternal life.

So many people in this world go part way with the Lord but then they stop. Especially if they run up against a belief or doctrine that they are not used to hearing. Instead of searching diligently with an open mind to know the truth, they turn aside, unwilling to go all the way. With the Lord this "part-way" business doesn't satisfy. He wants a person who will keep all the commandments and the statutes of God.

Going back to the teaching certificate that Alice wants—if she fulfills all the requirements except practice teaching, she still will not get the secondary certificate. She has taught school for years and years in elementary schools. Actually she knows how to teach and taking practice teaching seems unnecessary to her. Yet, if she refuses to take the course, she will not get the certificate.

Well, the same is true with God's requirements for a certificate of eternal life. You must obey all the requirements. James 2:10 says clearly, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." It is important to go all the way in living up to God's standards. We can say that we will do this and this but not this; however,

from the above Scripture we can see that all of God's requirements are necessary. He doesn't like nor does He want lukewarm people. "So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth" (Revelation 3:16).

The waiting is over now. Alice has her information and if she follows it, she will get her secondary teaching certificate. If she doesn't, then she will not receive this certificate. It is just that simple.

Before I leave this chair and this waiting room, I'll sum up my thoughts. It is a simple, not a complicated, matter to gain the Lord's Certificate of Eternal Life. The Lord expects us to obey the commandments and live up to the standards He has given. This does not mean the commandments or standards of men, but those of God's as found in the Bible. We must follow the instructions in Matthew 7:13, 14, "Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." To obtain the Certificate of Eternal Life, we must be among the blessed mentioned in Revelation 22:34, "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

*Reprint from March '63 AIM*

## M B C News

Time has swiftly flown here at Midwest, leaving fond memories. To many it seems like just yesterday that there was an air of excitement and anticipation here at Midwest as the time for midwinter break was nearing. Some were preparing for long trips which would take them as far as 1750 miles away from Midwest, while others, not so fortunate as to be able to make a trip, were preparing for different activities which they had planned for the vacation period.

The traveling students had little time to waste because of their becoming involved in the various youth retreats held in California, Minnesota, and Texas. The MBC students gained much practical experience and received many blessings as they assumed various responsibilities at their respective retreats and returned to Midwest filled with praises to God for His bountiful blessings.

Midwest quickly resumed its usual steady pace as the students and staff returned from vacation and began to prepare for final exams. Class lectures were filled with review material as the teachers prepared their classes for the finals. A different type of atmosphere never experienced before by many, lingered at Midwest during the week of the final exams. Many of the normal activities ceased as the students studied diligently for their tests.

Many students were surprised by the contrasting difficulty and ease they experienced with the various finals. Many attributed their understanding of the material on the tests to the help and guidance which they received from God. Praying and asking God to lead us through our different classes and studies is something done by students at Midwest. We feel that God has a purpose for each of us in His work and that we should constantly rely upon Him for help in

our different classes and studies.

It was a relief to many when semester finals were over at last and the first semester ended. Not wanting to waste any time, we entered right into the second semester with the registration of all the students and the issuing of new text books. Some of the new courses added to the second-semester curriculum are Evolutionary Theories, Christian Leadership, and Bible Versions.

Along with the beginning of the second semester and new courses, Midwest also received a new addition to its student body. Miss Lois Youngs from Ontario, California, joined the student body at MBC. All of the students are very happy to have Lois here, and we are praying that we will see many others join us at Midwest next year.

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### SCROLLS OF HOPE

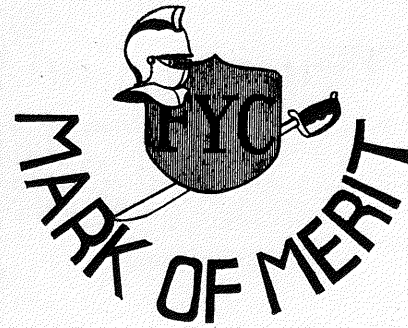
(Continued from page 21)

Today we can realistically claim this personal relationship with our Saviour. A "first-name acquaintance" does not *begin* to describe the devotion of this Friend who "sticketh closer than a brother." The salvation God offers through Him is special to each one of us.—Personally.—Individually.

When we fail to live up to God's standards or to the commitments we make to Him, with this same grief Peter detected, "the Lord turns and looks upon us." It means that much to Him.

Business firms and their computers can never *begin* to reach the magnitude of God; yet neither can they *begin* to *touch* the personal and genuine concern which He directs to each of us individually.

"... But the very hairs of your head are all numbered" (Matt. 10:30).



by Nathan Lawson

Since several fourth-quarter reports for 1969 have not reached my office, we are unable to give a report of the Mark of Merit Program for the 1969 year: "FYC of the Year" award winners will be announced next month in AIM.

I hope that you are getting a good start on this new year. An active FYC is a real inspiration to the local church program and the work of God.

### FIRST QUARTER REPORTS—1970

First-quarter report forms will be sent to all FYC Groups in the month of March. These reports will include a form for registering your FYC members with the National FYC office. We want names and addresses, as well as other information requested. Fill out this registration and send it to me with your first-quarter report. If you do not join the Mark of Merit Program, then send the Registration Form in anyway. This may also be sent to me.

### PROJECT OF THE MONTH—March

**FYC newspaper.** If you have a Mimeograph Machine available, you could begin printing a short newspaper for your local FYC members. This could be a real inspiration to your local group. It should include activities in a calendar of the month, poems, news, articles by FYC members, and other interesting things. This idea comes to us from the Tacoma, Washington FYC and several other FYC groups that are already printing such a paper.

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**THANKS, PAUL!** We are most grateful to Brother Paul Linville for the delightful cover which appeared on the January AIM. Though we know he very willingly and humbly uses his talents for his Lord, asking for no recognition, we feel it is fitting to give him this honorable mention.

# 2T<sub>4</sub>G - Take Time for God



By Martha Ling

Feb. 15	Jer. 1
Feb. 16	Jer. 2
Feb. 17	Jer. 3
Feb. 18	Jer. 4
Feb. 19	Jer. 5
Feb. 20	Jer. 6
Feb. 21	Jer. 7
Feb. 22	Jer. 8
Feb. 23	Jer. 9
Feb. 24	Jer. 10
Feb. 25	Jer. 11
Feb. 26	Jer. 12
Feb. 27	Jer. 13
Feb. 28	Jer. 14
Mar. 1	Jer. 15
Mar. 2	Jer. 16
Mar. 3	Jer. 17
Mar. 4	Jer. 18
Mar. 5	Jer. 19
Mar. 6	Jer. 20
Mar. 7	Jer. 21
Mar. 8	Jer. 22
Mar. 9	Jer. 23
Mar. 10	Jer. 24
Mar. 11	Jer. 25
Mar. 12	Jer. 26
Mar. 13	Jer. 27
Mar. 14	Jer. 28

Jeremiah is another prophetic book—a very interesting one. Some passages are easy to understand and apply. But others are difficult, and if you are like me, these do not fall in line unless you take a prophecy course.

However, Jeremiah also has some very inspirational verses that can apply to us. As we read and enjoy the stories or prophecies, we should look for these verses.

Two verses especially caught my attention. "... Behold, I set before you the way of life, and the way of death" (21:8). "Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein" (6:16).

God gave Israel a choice—either to follow Him, or accept the consequences. They chose to accept the consequences. We also have a choice which is set before us in the New Testament. What will your choice be?

\* \* \*

Some have asked me why we are going straight through the Bible, instead of taking parts of books at a time, or chapters with similar thoughts. It is true that we can gain spiritual blessings from reading here and there; however, at present, it is our purpose in this program to cover the entire Bible. Many things do fall into perspective when read in context and in order. In many cases, particularly when read-

ing concerning ancient nations and prophecies, you may gain a deeper insight with the use of Bible handbooks and/or commentaries. We also suggest that you consider selecting another devotional of your choosing in addition to the chapter you read in our 2T4G program. (Passages in the Psalms and in St. John are always excellent.)

\* \* \*

Some folders come in showing that the person has missed a day, and then read two chapters the next day. This may have happened several times in each month. It's fine that they keep turning in the reports, but it will not count for their 365 *consecutive* days. Of course, they will still be gaining their blessings from reading the chapters, and I hope their next folders will be completed. (It might be helpful to mention here that if you can establish a morning devotion time, it is much less likely to have been left out when the day ends. Besides this, you will find that you benefit much more from your devotions at an early hour in the day.)

Now, for our list of completed folders. (There weren't as many folders turned in this time. I hope that only means some were late in sending their folders in to me.) Those who have now completed one quarter are: Tom O'Haver, Donnie Lawson, and Martha Espinosa. Pat Jones has completed her second quarter, and is now half-way through her year of Bible reading.

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## SOFT JOBS MAKE SOFT MEN

Henry Ward Beecher once received a letter from a young man stating that he was eager to find an easy job, one that paid handsomely and involved no hard work, and asking the clergyman to tell him how to go about getting it.

"Young man, you cannot be an editor," replied Beecher. "Do not try the law. Do not think of the ministry. Do not think of manufacturing and merchandising. Abhor politics. Don't practice medicine. Don't be a farmer or a soldier or a sailor. All these require too much study and thinking. My son, you have come into a hard, hard world. There is only one easy place in it, and that is the grave."

Possibly the biggest handicap a young man can have is to land a soft job early in his career. He loses the opportunity of learning that the only kind of soft job worth having is one that he himself has softened up by a lot of hard work.

A young person should look at the trees that stand out in the open, buffeted by the winds, and compare them with the spindling ones which have been so protected that it wasn't necessary for them to send their roots deep down into the soil and get a stronger hold on it, and more nourishment from it.

The fortunate man today is the one who has a reasonably hard job and the ability and willingness to handle it. Soft jobs make soft men. Don't waste envy on the fellow with a soft job.





...Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh..."

# MINUTEMAN

by Michael D. Vlad

Last month we studied the necessity of being Minutemen. This month we want to get into our series of studies on Salvation. Throughout the next 11 months we are going to study and learn verses that apply to different phases of Salvation. We will learn verses that apply to Faith, Repentance, Baptism, and we will spend one month learning verses to combat the excuses people use for not being Christians!

This month we are going to study the question....

## WHY DID CHRIST DIE?

Ever since time began, God has provided a way for man to have his sins forgiven. From Adam to the death of Christ, forgiveness of sin was obtained through the sacrifices of bulls and bullocks. This system of Moses was not complete because where it could roll the sins ahead to Christ, it couldn't clear the consciences of men as could the system of Christ (Hebrews 9:8, 9, 14).

Not only did Christ die to replace the old, incomplete system of Moses, but as a sign of God's unmerited favor to man.

If it weren't for the sacrifice of Christ on the cross, I wouldn't be where I am. Man would have no hope for the future. Life would be worthless.

We as "Minutemen" of God have a possession money can't buy. That is salvation. It is up to us to show those who are lost in sin the way to eternal life.

Why did Christ die? Not just to replace the incomplete system of animal sacrifices, but, "that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life."

## State FYC Election at Texas Retreat

A Texas State FYC business meeting followed the Monday evening service at the Texas Youth Retreat. The election results were: Jerry Moldenhauer-President; Dixie Walton-Vice President; Elda Banda-Secretary-Treasurer; and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Knoll and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Lawson, sponsors.

## Bonus, Bonus Points for "Project of the Year"!!

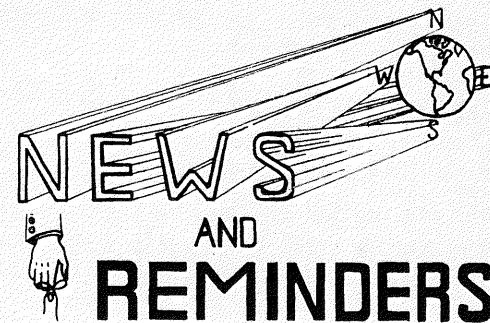
Sponsor your FYC leader to the National Leadership Retreat to be held in the summer of 1970. Local FYC groups may adopt this as their "project of the year."

In last month's AIM, it was announced that 25 bonus points would be given in the Mark of Merit Program to every FYC that completes this project. It is felt that 25 points are too few for such an outstanding project and so we are changing the bonus point allotment to 50.

Make plans to have your FYC leader join other local leaders, National Committeemen, Leadership Committeemen, and Youth Workers at this important meeting.

## Youth Doctrine Corner

We encourage your FYC group to set up a Bible Study program in which the young people can study the Youth Doctrine Corner, a feature in this magazine, together. If your FYC group has not been doing this previously, it would be well to make use of back issues of AIM and have



the FYCers study the series right from the very first one. The series was initiated in the January 1969 issue.

## New Auburn FYC Sends Aid for Biafran Brethren

The New Auburn FYC recently sent \$350 to the National FYC in behalf of Biafran needs. They raised the money by giving each member one dollar with the request that the money be invested and be returned with the increase after a certain length of time.

Thank you, New Auburn FYC, for engaging in such a worthy and rewarding project!!

## FYC Albums, Sweaters and Decals

FYC albums, sweaters, and decals are still available. Order now from the National FYC Office, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

## 2T4G—A Successful Formula

Join with many other FYCers who have found that the 2T4G (Take Time for God) program is a real success in their lives. This easy-to-follow program serves to strengthen FYCers individually, and thus your

group as a whole is strengthened in serving the Master.

#### FYC Coordinator Between Mexico and U. S.

Daniel Davila has been recently appointed as FYC Coordinator for the correlation of the work between the USA FYCers and the Spanish-speaking FYCers. He will be helping by corresponding with the Spanish



FYCers, including those in Mexico. He will also help translate National FYC booklets into Spanish so they may benefit from these materials. We are hoping to establish regular communication with our Spanish FYCers.

#### AIM Project for 1970

Many young people who were receiving AIM magazine during 1969 have not renewed their subscriptions. We are inviting FYC groups to work with us to get all expirations of 1969 renewed during 1970. Any FYC group interested in sponsoring ten renewals for expirations should send notification of its desires to National FYC office, Stanberry, Missouri 64489.

#### Now is the "Hour"

Your FYC group can be more efficient in the spreading of the gospel by wholeheartedly participating in Mark of Merit. Now is the time to begin—during the first quarter of 1970. For information, write to the Mark of Merit Director:

Elder Nathan Lawson  
841 S. Washington  
Lodi, California 95240

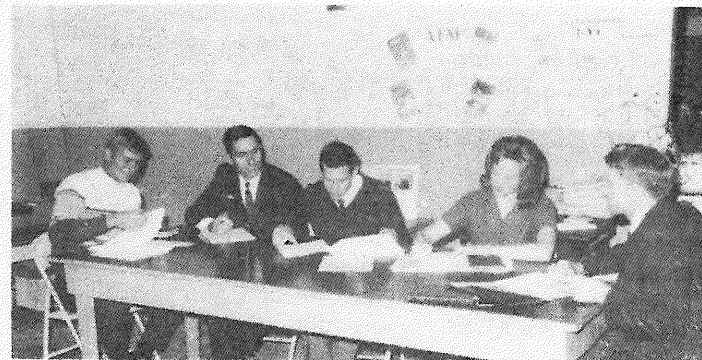
#### WHY ATTEND CHURCH?

(Continued from page 11)

wonderful testimony that is! It is certainly true that attending church is like attending a feast in a spiritual sense. If you go with the right attitude, you will leave completely filled with spiritual blessings. Thus, we see the real need for attending spiritual services.

But, my burden for Church of God young people today is that they do not merely *attend* church services, but that they become actively *involved* with the church programs. It is not enough to just attend services if we do not get behind God's church and push. So it is more than meeting week after week—we must bear fruit of our service.

As we see the day approaching, let us assemble in God's name and become involved so that David's prayer shall be ours, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord."



Watch next month's AIM for a report of the FYC National Committee (pictured above) as they recently met in Texas.

## F. S. Y. R. IS ALMOST HERE!!

### — Fairview Spring Youth Retreat

- March 27, 28, 29
  - Fairview, Oklahoma
- Dune buggies
- Sand dunes
- Hiking on hills as you've never seen before
- Basketball
- Football on top of the mountain
- Singing
- Campfire Services
- Youth messages
- Youth speakers
- Plus lots of fine food!
- Featuring—MBC MALE QUARTET
- Pre-registration NOT required
- Things to Bring: Yourself — Bedding — Bible — \$2.00

If you desire further information, write to:

Charles Burlison

Fairview, Oklahoma 73737

Wayne Burrell

R. R. 1, Box 192

Fairview, Oklahoma 73737