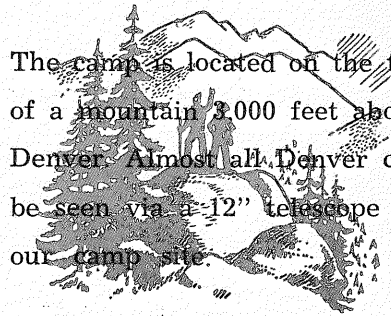


NATIONAL LEADERSHIP RETREAT

The camp is located on the top of a mountain 3,000 feet above Denver. Almost all Denver can be seen via a 12" telescope on our camp site.

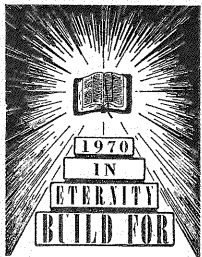


WHEN—August 21-24

**WHERE—Near Boulder, Colorado
(Seventh-day Baptist Camp)**

WHO—National and Local FYC Leaders

- NATIONAL COMMITTEE
- LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE
- NATIONAL FYC PROGRAM DIRECTORS
- AIM STAFF
- LOCAL FYC LEADERS, SPONSORS AND WORKERS
- SPECIAL GUEST



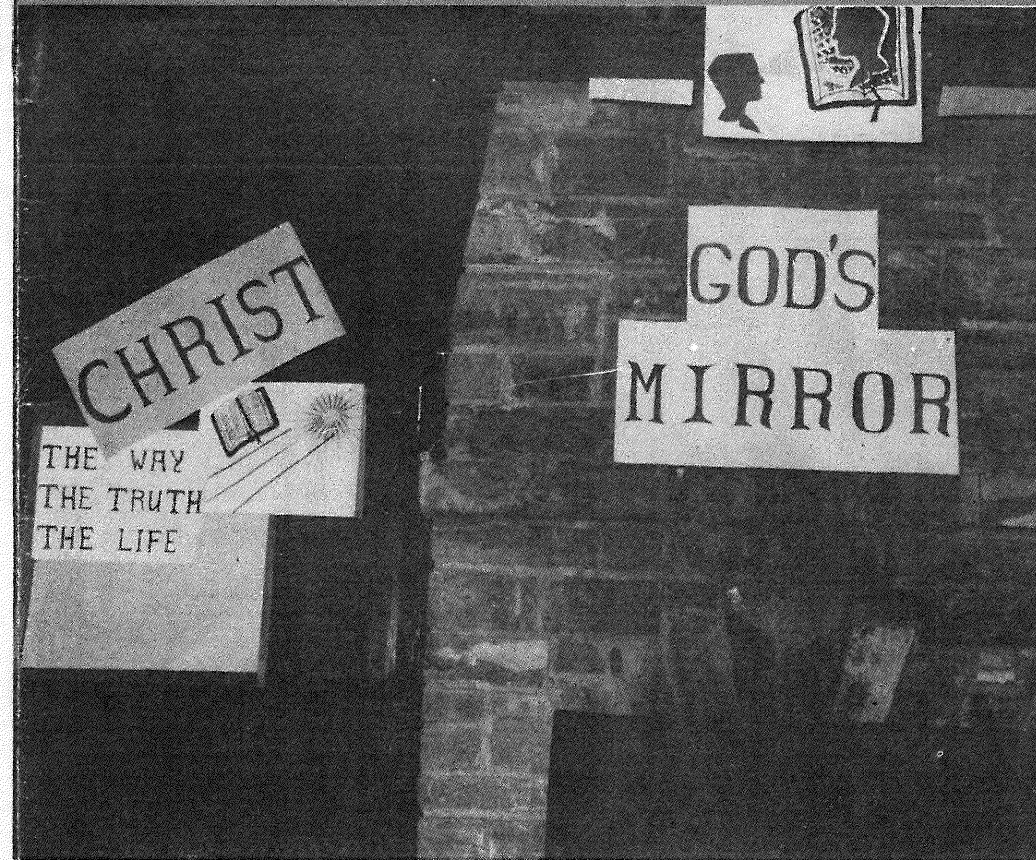
1970 Motto

WHAT—Programs for Progress in Local and National FYC

- WORSHIP
- RECREATION
- WORKSHOPS

Aim

The magazine for young people



“God’s Mirror,” theme of High Plains District youth camp, was beautifully spotlighted in blue and pink lights. The theme was made meaningful in its two facets:

- God’s Word, reflecting our own spiritual condition to ourselves
 - Our lives, “God’s Mirror,” reflecting Jesus Christ for others to see

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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Vol. XXXIV, No. 7

Hope E. Dais, Editor

A life merely of pleasure, or chiefly of pleasure, is always a poor and worthless life, not worth the living; always unsatisfactory in its course, always miserable in its end.

—THEODORE PARKER

Contents of This Issue

How to Live the Life of Faith <i>Carol Millican</i>	page 3
Blue Monday <i>Anonymous</i>	page 7
Audition for Happiness <i>Morton Green</i>	page 8
Tell Me, Please <i>Ray L. Straub</i>	page 11
Gospel Around the World <i>John Lemley</i>	page 13
The Unequal Yoke <i>Helen B. Lyke</i>	page 15
Wanted: a Boy	page 17
Missouri Youth Camp	page 18
Girl of the Year	page 20
Scrolls of Hope	page 21
Teen Guidelines—Your Preparation for Service <i>Dale Lawson-Bob Dais</i>	page 22
Courage Unexcelled <i>Violetta Gammon</i>	page 25
Mark of Merit <i>Nathan Lawson</i>	page 27
Youth Doctrine Corner	page 29
2T4G—Take Time for God <i>Martha Ling</i>	page 30
Minuteman <i>Michael D. Vlad</i>	page 32
News and Reminders	page 33

How to Live the Life of Faith

by Carol Millican

Of course, faith is the "substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen," but what does this mean? How does a person who has faith react to life's situations? How does a person who lacks faith obtain it?

We can learn some lessons from persons in the Bible who have been lauded as possessing outstanding faith. Let us study the lives of several of these men who are mentioned in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews.

Why is Noah considered one of the examples of great faith? In what way was Noah's conduct so different from ordinary? A bit of reading between the lines in Genesis six and seven provides the answer. Verses 14-21 of Genesis 6 records God's instructions to Noah on how the ark which was to save himself and his family was to be built. Have you ever wondered what must have been going on in Noah's mind as God was giving him these instructions? Did any doubtful thoughts enter his mind as to the wisdom of using gopher wood for an ark that was to survive such a heavy storm, or whether the Lord had given him measurements adequate for the purpose of holding eight people along with so many animals? Or have you ever wondered whether or not Noah worried about looking foolish in the eyes of his friends for building this

contraption which was, according to Noah, to save himself from a catastrophe that would destroy the world outside? One cannot help thinking that if a man set out to perform such a task today, he would be considered to be mentally incompetent.

But if Noah had any such thoughts or doubts, they are not recorded in the scriptures—the next Biblical comment after all of God's instructions indicates that Noah had complete trust in God's judgment, regardless of what he himself or anyone else might think!

Thus did Noah; according to all that God commanded him, so did he.

Noah had faith enough in God to believe that he knew what was best regardless what the circumstances might be, and regardless of how unreasonable what he was asked to do appeared on the surface. He performed as he was told without any objections or hesitations: "And Noah did according unto all that the Lord commanded him" (Genesis 7:5).

The example of Abraham is to me the greatest example of faith in God that has ever been recorded—next to that of the Lord Himself. Hebrews 11 lauds Abraham for his outstanding example of faith on two occasions—once when he was told to leave his home and friends and go to a land of which he knew nothing (Hebrew 11:8), and again when he obeyed God without hesitation when he was

ordered to sacrifice his son on the altar. Abraham's performance on this occasion has always seemed to me to be so incredible as to be almost unbelievable, but if we analyze this account, we can see that Abraham can be an example for all of us. Again, very little is recorded regarding Abraham's private thoughts and feelings during this time. Genesis 22:1, 2 records God's order to Abraham—then verse 3 simply states:

And Abraham rose up early in the morning and saddled his ass and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up, and went unto the place of which God had told him.

One can't help wondering what thoughts ran through Abraham's mind that night. Abraham knew that it was through a divine miracle that Isaac had been born in the first place, and it was through Isaac that God had promised to make a great nation (Genesis 21:18)—and yet here God was asking him to sacrifice his son on an altar.

But whether or not Abraham gave any thought to the unreasonableness of the command is not recorded; the simple fact of his perfect and unflinching obedience is recorded. It is apparent that Abraham did not even discuss the matter with anyone, for even his son, Isaac, did not know his father's intention (Genesis 22:7). Verse

8 seems to indicate, however, that Abraham believed that Isaac would be spared. But Abraham had the full intention of performing as God commanded him without any hesitation—for the voice of the angel stopped Abraham's knife in mid-air (Genesis 22:10, 11).

The Prophet Moses is also mentioned in Hebrews 11 as an outstanding example of faith. A study of the life of Moses, however, reveals that he was not quite as unwavering in his faith as Noah and Abraham. Consider, for example, the story of Moses' confrontation with the burning bush as recorded in Exodus 3 and 4. In reading this account, one can hardly help chuckling at Moses, for here he displays so many of the human traits that are common to most of us. Consider, for example, Moses' lack of confidence in his own abilities: Verses 1-10 of Exodus 3 give the account of the awesome task that God, through the burning bush, called upon Abraham to perform—he was to deliver the nation of Israel out of Egypt. Moses objects in verse 11:

Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should go bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

Moses could not understand why God would call upon *him*, of all people, to perform such a great task. But the Lord reassured him:

Certainly I will be with thee.

But the first objection had hardly been answered when Moses raised another: "But how will I explain to them who sent me?" (paraphrasing). This objection was also answered (verses 14 and 15).

But Moses still was not through making excuses. In Exodus 4:1 Moses objects that he is afraid he will not be believed and that the people of Israel will not do as he wanted them to do. But the angel's voice in the burning bush shows him how to convince the people by making a rod become a snake.

In Exodus 4:10, Moses makes a final effort to convince the Lord that he should call upon someone else to perform the task. It seems that Moses was desperate when he cried:

O Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech and of a slow tongue.

The Lord's answer to Moses is an inspiring lesson to all of us:

And the Lord said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? Have not I the Lord? Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

Verse 14 records that the Lord became angry at Moses for his lack of confidence and assured him that Aaron, his brother, would be his mouthpiece.

What lessons of faith can we learn from these three men?

How do their lives exemplify a way of life for us today?

The main point that stands out in these examples is that circumstances may often seem unreasonable or even unjust to us in our own eyes and still be in the will of God. Of importance in the lives of Abraham and Noah is not the possibility that they felt that what they were called upon to do was unreasonable but that their faith in God that He knew best overruled these feelings. Of special note also in their lives is the apparent absence of worry on their part—in spite of the explosive nature of their appointed tasks.

But you may say, "I just don't have that kind of faith. How do I go about attaining that kind of faith?"

Consider the example of Moses again. He is probably more like the average person than either Noah or Abraham. And yet God used him in spite of his lack of confidence. He knew that Moses' faith needed developing. Yet God was angry with Moses because he seemed unwilling to let God use him (Exodus 4:13, 14). There is no doubt that God could have used him more if he had been more willing.

From the New Testament we learn that faith is not something that we "work up" within ourselves. It is a gift (Ephesians 2:8). According to Romans 1:17: "Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God."

And the Word of God says:

"All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13).

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33).

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee: yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness" (Isaiah 41:10).

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. . ." (Isaiah 40:31).

"...No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly" (Psalm 91:1).

So the next time you feel your faith wavering, remind yourself of these verses—as well as countless others you will find in the scriptures—and recall the unreasonableness of the situations of some of the great men of the Bible; and recall how our Lord, although at one time during His ordeal here on earth had qualms about going through with the task that God had appointed him to do (Mark 14:36), had faith that God knew what was best and thus

(Continued on page 28)

Blue Monday

"Oh, dear, Monday morning and nothing to do," was the first thought that crossed my mind as I sat in the office at 9:30 on a very dismal Monday morning. I had already cleared away the evidence of an apparently hectic weekend for my employer, and now there was nothing required of me until he should call for me to take dictation. I had my choice of playing solitaire, or writing some overdue letters! and, oh yes, there *was* the AIM that I had picked up as an afterthought in case of chronic boredom.

My first preference would very likely have been those letters; but then I thought of our F.Y.C. and its efforts to be successful in the Mark of Merit Program, so I decided that I should read the AIM for "just a few minutes" and then I could always try something else if I wanted to. Without even realizing that it was happening, I was soon engrossed in the magazine. Here were articles by kids that I had gone to school with, laughed and cried with—and these friends had witnessed to me and helped me along many times. The things that they had written of had something to do with my own life, with my own personal experiences. These topics were important to me. It inspired me to read of their experiences and their thoughts about what we, as young people, can do to further the work of the Lord.

All too soon, I discovered that I had read completely through the AIM from "cover to cover." It seemed that I had spent only a few minutes, but when I glanced at the clock, I saw that I had been reading for over an hour. The AIM really helped to take the "blue" out of my Monday and to inspire me to live for the Lord. I am so thankful that we young people in the Church of God have this magazine to turn to for spiritual guidance.

THANK YOU very much!



Audition for

by Morton Green

Diana Lane hurried away from the auditorium. She had been practicing her piece for graduation and now she had to practice for next weekend's church service. She tried not to remember the awful fact that with graduation so close she still hadn't chosen a music conservatory to attend.

"Going my way?" Diana was startled to find Greg Blackmore had fallen in step beside her.

"I'm going to church, Greg," she answered. "To practice organ."

"Good." Greg smiled. "I'll tag along and listen to you play."



Greg, who was studying for the ministry, was the nephew of the minister of their church. Diana had first become aware of him when Janie, her best friend, had commented, "How can such a dreamboat be so . . . goody-goody!"

Diana had been forced to disagree with the petulant girl. Greg wasn't stiff or pious. He was just more serious, more mature, than the boys they knew.

In a few minutes Diana was sitting down at the organ in the empty church. "This isn't going to be very interesting," she warned. "Just practice."

Though she had played in church for almost longer than she could remember, the sound of the sacred music in the emptiness still thrilled her. It was here she felt she played her best.

So consumed was she with her inner surge of emotion, she hardly noticed when Greg began to softly sing the familiar words of the hymn. But soon she couldn't help noticing his wonderful, rich baritone.

"Why you have a beautiful voice," Diana declared, as she finished the piece. "You must come and sing in our church choir."

"Thank you. I will," Greg agreed. "If you will be playing."

Suddenly Diana realized Greg was the one person who could answer the question that had been on her mind for a long time.

"Greg, how did you know you

Happiness

were destined to serve Jesus?" she asked.

"I'm one of the lucky ones," he answered seriously. "It seems as if I've always known the only life for me is serving Jesus Christ."

Yes, it would be like that for Greg. But were people always sure? Did you always know from the beginning that you wanted to dedicate your life to the Lord's work?

When Diana came home she found her mother and Miss James, her piano teacher for these many years, sitting in the living room.

"Diana, my dear," Miss James said, rising, "something very wonderful has happened for both of us."

Diana looked at Miss James' radiant face unable to guess what had happened.

"Irving Horn is coming to hear you play," Miss James explained, taking Diana's hands in her own. "I wrote him about you two months ago, though I never dreamed he would come here from New York even for an old friend."

Diana couldn't believe Irving Horn, the leading concert manager in New York, was coming to hear her play. It was common knowledge that if he signed you, you became a star.

"Isn't it wonderful," her mother

sighed. "You might even become famous."

A picture of herself playing to wildly applauding audiences flashed across Diana's mind. Was this dearly cherished picture what she really wanted?

"But I'm not ready," Diana protested weakly. "You have to be really good to play for Irving Horn."

"You are really good, my dear," Miss James assured her. "Everyone in Maple City agrees on that."

That was the trouble. She was good—for Maple City. But was she good enough for the New York concert stage and Irving Horn?

Diana couldn't wait until she would see Greg again. She felt he was the only one who could help her straighten things out in her own mind.

It wasn't until after church services that Diana had a chance to tell Greg about Irving Horn and ask Greg's advice.

"What do you want to do?" Greg asked Diana.

"I don't know." Diana closed the choir practice room door. "Miss James might laugh at this, but I think I feel the calling of the Lord, and the concert stage seems shallow beside that call."

"The Lord's work is important,"

Greg agreed, "But the concert stage isn't shallow. Your music can bring happiness into the lives of many people."

He was telling her she had to make her own decision. That wasn't the answer she had hoped for.

"It is my decision," Diana admitted to herself. "And no one else can make it for me." If there were only some sign, some guidepost to point the way.

Diana shuddered when Miss James told her Mr. Horn was coming to hear her play graduation night.

"I know it is a bad time, but you will be good," Miss James declared confidently.

Diana was not so confident. No matter how technically perfect she made her playing she didn't feel her music.

On graduation night she stood before her bedroom mirror looking at the girl in the beautiful white dress and prayed, "Dear Lord, help me to play well tonight."

Soon she was outside the auditorium watching the other boys and girls go in. Was she, among all of them, destined to serve Jesus?

As she sat down to play that night it was impossible to tell which of the faces before her was Irving Horn's.

She knew her music perfectly. She knew her technique perfectly. Yet she didn't know if she was playing well or not.

"I won't let it matter," she promised herself as she slipped into her cap and gown backstage for the diploma ceremony. "If he tells me I'm terrible, I won't care."

Right after the ceremony Diana rushed to Miss James' studio. Irving

Horn was standing by the piano. He was a handsome, white-haired gentleman. Miss James was not there.

"I'm sorry you had to come so far," Diana apologized. Then whispering, "Maybe it was a waste of time."

He was gruff. "Nonsense! If Mariam James says a performer is good, he is good. You play well, Diana.

Diana waited. He had given her only part of the answer.

She already knew she played well. She also knew playing "well" was not enough for the concert stage.

"Is that all?" she asked, almost afraid to hear his answer.

Mr. Horn seemed in no hurry to answer her directly. "I once knew a girl who practiced five hours a day from the time she was seven until she was nineteen," he said. "Today she has two children and considers herself just an average housewife."

"Are you trying to say my study has been wasted?"

"To be a great musician you must play with your heart," he replied kindly. "Your playing lacks that quality of greatness."

Irving Horn's face blurred before her. She wasn't good enough! She knew now that she did care.

"Your study hasn't been wasted," Mr. Horn went on, but she wasn't listening. "Your music can still be a great source of happiness to you."

Diana wavered for a moment, then she turned rudely away and ran out of the studio. Tears were rolling down her face.

It was her heart that told her where she was going. She was going to church.

When she got to the church Diana

(Continued on page 26)

Tell Me, Please

QUESTION:

What do you think about getting involved in peace demonstrations? War is not the will of God, and so I think that the young people today on college and high school campuses are right in demonstrating against war. Do you think we ought to go along with them?

ANSWER:

War does not represent the Will of God, to be sure! Our church stands firmly opposed to participation in it. She did so many years before any of these modern peace movements came about.

I consider that the demonstrations to which you refer are the product of a social mania and are rejected by anyone who values clear thinking. To fight for peace through producing hysteria makes about as much sense as trying to reduce by eating as much fattening food as possible.

Because these young people do not think, they fall prey to hair-airy demagogues whose lusty eyes grow fat through trouble-making. If most of these young people got the kind of life they are demonstrating for, they would bitterly regret it.

Peace comes from above and then from within. People who love peace

Youth Questions

answered by

Ray L. Straub



live that way. It is the only way to demonstrate for peace. I'm thankful that there are so many more other young people who are apparently aware of this.

QUESTION:

I've been going with this boy for only a short time, and the other night he surprised me by offering me an engagement ring. My parents don't like him too well, mostly because he has already been engaged two times recently. I kind of like him, but it seems to me he is coming on strong. Do you think I should accept his ring?

ANSWER:

It appears that this answer probably will not make it in time, but I would say, "No." You listed enough reasons in your question.

Don't worry about your friend. He is used to having that ring handed

If you have a problem, you are encouraged to write to: Aim, Box 158, Stanberry, Missouri 64489. Questions requesting a personal answer through the mail are honored, as well as those for print.

back to him, and he'll find others to give it to.

QUESTION:

What can a girl do when a boy is always asking her to prove her love to him—you know what I mean? I have gone out with fellows who bring this up, and I like to go out with them—up to this point.

ANSWER:

There is no way to prove the pres-

ence of love. Any boy who asks a girl to prove her love by giving in to an illicit relationship proves two things: (1) he does not love her or he would not ask such a costly and unreasonable favor, and (2) he is not too smart. You are better off with someone else or no one.

Hey, fellows! A lot of these "lines" end up with nooses which will tighten around your neck! You are not old enough or smart enough to start associating with young ladies until you know where to stop.

The Contented Flowers

The flowers seem to have a great deal to say to us on the subject of "contentment." Some flowers grow in greenhouses, where great care is taken of them, and they are protected from the cold. Everything is done for them that can be to make them grow and flourish.

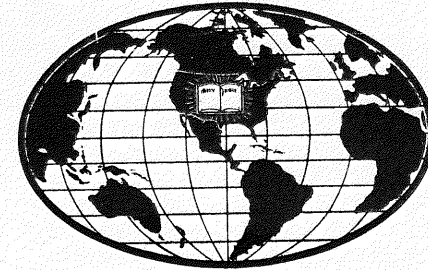
Some grow in gardens, some in fields, and some in strange out-of-the-way places, where no one ever sees them, and where they are never gathered, but are left to grow as well as they can, and then to fade and die.

But no matter where flowers are found, they are satisfied with the place that God puts them in, and they try to make the best of it. Sometimes a flower finds itself growing in an old broken teapot, or in a wooden box in the garret window of some poor old woman who lives in the crowded court of a great city; yet it never frets or worries about its position. If it does not get fresh air and sunshine, it can't grow much. But if it can only get plenty of these, it will try to grow, and look green and beautiful, and bear the very nicest flower that any plant of its kind can bear. And when we see the flowers growing so beautifully in strange, wild, desolate, and disagreeable places, they seem to be preaching to us about contentment. They tell us that God has put us where we are and what He wants us to do is not to fret and worry about our situation, but to be satisfied with it, and try to do the best we can in it.

—From "Nature's Wonders," or "God's Works Praise Him."

By Richard Newton

Gospel Around



the World

By John Lemley

"I waited patiently for the Lord; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry" (Psa. 40:1).

Since 1965, when Jewell Linville became foreign correspondent, until a few weeks ago, it has been the continual prayer of this office that our letters to India would be answered. When a letter was received the above verse came to mind and praise to God rose from our lips. At long last India has formed another link in that chain that we want to encircle the globe.

Brother Ginzamung Israel gives us the following insight into the Church of God activities in Manipur, India:

"Manipur is situated on the border line of India, Burma, and Pakistan and is very suitable for the purpose of evangelization. Because of financial insufficiency here, we are working

every man as the Lord stirred him. The Church is composed of mainly poor people, e.g. the maimed, the lame, and starving ones. Though we are few in number the Lord is leading us and the country is shaken by the doctrine 'once delivered unto the saints.' We are like beams in the eyes of all denominations. They are being burdened with this small remnant as it is in Zech. 12:2, 3. The church, by the mercies of the Lord, is developing from time to time, and they are willing workers. Things are run by voluntary workers.

"It is hard for us to reach the southern and central parts of India. I went with Brother V. Israel once to West Godavari and Tenali. We took the trip by train by fasting six days up and down 12 days almost. Elder P. Joseph, the overseer, will know our condition, how we reached and leave

off and how we were clothed. Here is a photograph taken during our evangelistic campaign as we passed through the Tuin-ing area.

"Concerning the northern part of India progress is found by the grace of the Lord. The workers in Manipur consist almost exclusively of young people. God uses these young boys and girls to convert the old and aged ones. The present preachers are mostly young people of 15 to 25 ages to the fulfillment of Matthew 11:25. Most of them are facing trial of faith. They are forced to give up their faith or leave their homes. Some are forced to break the fourth commandment or give up their studies in the midst of their college life. I thanked and praised God because they are blessed with strong faith and unquenchable zeal in the Master's service. There are about 30 able working young people in Churchandpur. The real present workers are 7 persons. We are preaching the Gospel by walking 15 to 20 miles a day, and so, it is hard for anyone but younger people. Here is a photograph of the young workers. Yours in the Master's Service, Ginzamung Israel

(It was not possible to run the pictures with this issue. Watch August AIM for pictures of youth workers in the Church of God (7th Day) in Churchandpur, India.)

Prayer requests

One of the prayer requests

published last May has already had visible results. Brother Charles Browne wrote from Trinidad. He declares how things which were once obstacles to his coming to Midwest Bible College have now become stepping stones. Truly God does hear and answer the prayers of His children!

To help you continue in the 2T4G program this list of prayer requests has been compiled for you to remember especially during the month of July.

Sunday—Pray for the brethren in Nigeria as they rebuild their burned houses and try to acquire needed food and clothing.

Monday—Youth in Poland and Jamaica have requested prayer as they take final exams in school.

Tuesday—Pray for the young workers in India who are working so hard to evangelize the country against so many odds.

Wednesday—Praise for the organizing of a new FYC in Derby, England.

Thursday—Pray that God will bless the Philippine Radio Program as it boldly declares the way to salvation.

Friday—Pray for God's richest blessings upon the fourth annual convocation in London, England—July 24-29.

Contentment gives a crown, where fortune hath denied it.

The Unequal Yoke

by Helen B. Lyke

All around us today, inside and outside the divorce court are evidences of the unequal yoke. God's Word says, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with dark? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?" (2 Corinthians 6:14, 15).

Many a Christian young lady has been persuaded, even against her better judgment oftentimes, to marry an unconverted young man who has promised to take her to church *after* they are married. We have all seen how many of these marriages take an unhappy turn with the result usually being that the wife becomes a church "widow." She is embarrassed by having to attend church services alone—if she attends at all.

Then this husband spends the day sleeping, reading the paper, washing or tinkering on the car, hunting, fishing, boating, golfing, or gardening. To her is relegated the responsibility of the

religious education of their youngsters, if there are any. If they should become Christians, it is then his turn to be embarrassed by the questions and proddings of his children when they ask why Daddy does not go to church with them!

The opposite may also be true. Using all the feminine wiles at her command, many a winsome woman has inveigled a cleancut Christian gentleman into marriage by promising him that she will become a Christian "after" they are married. Then, he has found, to his disappointment, that she has as many excuses for not doing so as she had wiles, formerly.

In these unequal situations, unless the Christian is strong enough to hold out for a Christian mate, or has enough moral fortitude to refuse to marry the other unless he or she becomes a Christian *before* (not *after*) marriage, this state of affairs will continue everywhere.

Not only are the people in this land afflicted with this sorrow, but many missionaries give poignant, real-life illustrations of the results of the unequal

yoke among national Christians who are mated with those of a pagan faith. They often relate tales of horror and persecution such as we have never experienced.

If you will pardon a personal illustration, perhaps the following experience will be helpful. During the depression years, I was engaged to a young man who actively participated in the services of our church. He was personable and popular with everyone. At different times he had served as president of our church class, as superintendent of the church school, and as head usher. He could recite Scriptures by the chapter, and most people considered him a believer. We kept company for two years before we became engaged; but as time went on, I became increasingly skeptical of his salvation.

The day came when he cracked under the strain of trying to live up to what people believed about him. He was asked by our pastor where he stood spiritually and why he was not willing to be baptized. He excused himself by saying that he was struggling to give up smoking and, until he could do so, he did not feel that he should be immersed and join the church.

Under questioning, he gave himself away by revealing that he really was not converted, after all. It gradually came to light that not only was he a smoker, he was also a heavy drinker and a very sensual person.

The weekend after I sadly broke our engagement, I walked three miles to church alone. My pastor told me that he was glad that I had broken the engagement. He said, "Helen, the scripture says, 'Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers,' and the young man gave me no satisfactory evidence of being saved. God means what He says; and, if you had married him, you would have been very unhappy."

Thirty-two years have passed since that time, and I have never heard that he ever became a Christian. In fact, a few years ago, I read in the newspaper that he was arrested in the town where he works on a public nuisance charge for public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

Four years later, another young man entered my life. Jim was an Irish Catholic, very devout in his faith but equally determined that, if we married, I would renounce Protestantism for him. This I was not prepared to do. After carefully analyzing what I would be giving up, I could not and would not do it; for my faith meant as much to me as his did to him. I told him this and recommended that he find some nice girl of his own faith and marry her—which he finally did.

The unequal yoke applies in business partnerships, as well as in marriage partnerships. A skilled tradesman whom I know is a very dedicated Christian. As time has gone by, both his faith and his commitment have deep-

ened. A working relationship into which he entered some years ago is becoming increasingly intolerable to him because his partner is not a Christian.

Unless two people are of like mind, with common interests and purposes, an unequal yoke does not work out for God's glory, or for the Christian's best good. More often than not the unbeliever does not aspire to reach the level of the believer but, instead, tries to drag the believer down to his level. Thus, Christ can have no concord with Belial.

Here is God's solution to this

problem: "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty" (2 Corinthians 6:17, 18). Thus, if we separate ourselves from those who will not accept, or travel, God's way, and if we renounce their way completely, God has promised to receive us and to be a father to us. What more could we ask for, or require?

—*The Lighted Pathway*

Wanted: a Boy

He must have a clean face, clean habits and a clean heart. He need not know how to roll a cigarette or how beer tastes; and if he is not up to date on smutty jokes his ignorance will be overlooked.

He must be a boy who treats his mother and sister—and every other boy's mother and sister—with respect and does not refer to his father as "the old man." He need not be especially brilliant at school but he must be studious and persevering, never cheating in his examinations or leaving a problem until he has mastered it.

He must be truthful, prompt, obedient and industrious. He must make his employer's interest his interest and never be afraid of earning more than his wages.

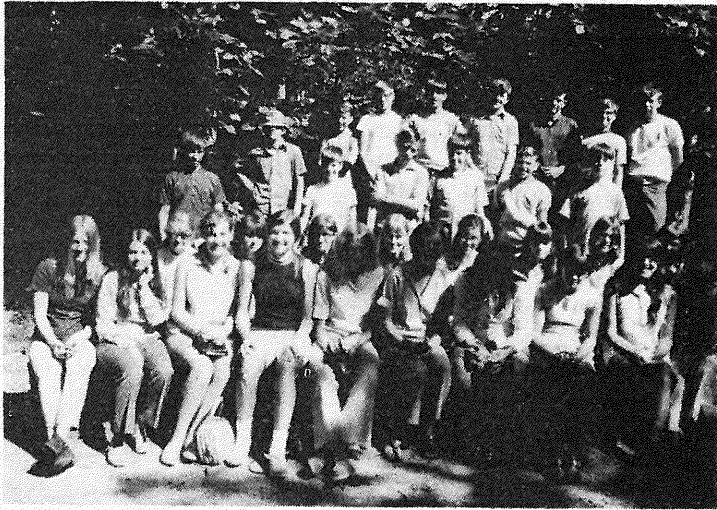
He is wanted to respond at once. Merchants want him to sweep out the store for a few years and ultimately to take charge of it.

He is wanted everywhere—in law, in medical practice, in the counting room and to run great public works. The people who pay big salaries are looking for him.

People want him for a judge in a court, member of congress, senator and for president. The nicest girl in the world wants him for her husband.

(This message, printed on a card for young male employees, was given out many years ago by Charles F. Ruggles, a millionaire, from Manistee, Michigan.)

—Selected



Bible Doctrines Class

"No electricity in the cabins? Oh no! This is impossible!" "I wish I had stayed at home!" "Set my hair by flashlight?" "A snake will get me!" These are some of the comments that were heard at the beginning of the youth camp held here in Missouri.

It is true that the camp was without electricity, at least in the cabin area. And to make matters worse, the cabins were scattered in the woods in three different groups about three-hundred yards from the areas where the main buildings were and where the evening meetings were held. Of course, there were well-traveled trails leading to the cabin areas.

"God's Mirror" was the theme for the High Plains District youth camp which was held at Knob Noster State Park near Knob Noster, Missouri, June 22-28.

The blessings were abundant throughout the week and resulted in the burial with Christ in baptism of six young people. Several other young people went home to be bap-

tized by their own pastors as they wanted their parents to be present at their baptism.

During the week, two applications of the theme were made by the evening speakers. First, "God's Mirror" was related to the Bible and God's Law which, of course, reflects our spiritual condition to each of us. God's Word shows us exactly what we are! Secondly, we are "God's Mirror" in that we reflect Jesus Christ by our lives that others may see Him and be drawn to Him.

The camp recreational program was highlighted by the staff-camper softball and basketball games, the wild water fight (started by one of the counselors) and the moonlight swim on the last night of camp. The campers did enjoy many hours of fine recreational activities.

Bible classes were conducted each morning for both the junior and senior campers. The senior campers became thoroughly involved with a study of Bible Doctrines in one of

Missouri Youth Camp

their classes and with current events in prophecy in the other Bible class. It was a thrill to see the young people studying, asking questions and seeing the truth of the teachings of the Church of God.

God made Himself real night after night as the senior campers gathered around the fireplace or an outdoor campfire for evangelistic services. One night after Elder Nelson Caswell had presented a stirring challenge to the campers, a great number of them pressed forward to spend time in

*The baptizing of
six precious souls at
camp. Several others
plan to be baptized in
their home churches.*



prayer. Several of them confessed their sins and received the Lord Jesus Christ that night.

As the last of the campers were leaving the place of prayer after that service, two of them stopped about 50 feet up the trail and prayed together for one of the older campers, a young man who very much needed to repair his relationship with God. The very next night their faith was rewarded as that young man came, kneeling in the dust of the earth with other campers to confess his sin and find determination to live for God always.

Perhaps the feelings about the camp and the blessings received can best be summed up by this quote from a letter received shortly after camp was over. "It was truly a blessing to be able to attend services at camp and see so many young people dedicated to Christ."

The last night of camp the campers gathered around the campfire for the last time. During the chorus session, there was a special sense of blessing resulting from the week of close communion with God. In spite of the absence of electricity in the cabins and the long distance between the main campgrounds and the cabins,

A camp cookout is enjoyed by enthusiastic fellows and girls.



God's Spirit had reached the hearts of many young people.

"Can we stay another week?" "I don't want to go home yet!" Can we come back here next year?" "Thank

God for this week." "God bless you!" These are some of the comments that were heard at the closing service of the youth camp held here in Missouri.

GIRL OF THE YEAR



Glenda Caswell

Glenda La-Ree Caswell, thirteen-year-old daughter of Elder and Mrs. Nelson Caswell of Denver, Colorado, received the honor of being elected

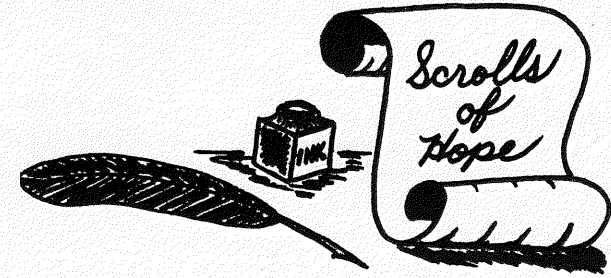
"Girl of the Year" in the John Dewey Junior High where she was attending the eighth grade this year. The school has an enrollment of about 600.

Candidates for the girl and boy of the year are nominated by the faculty who then act as judges. The award is based on scholastic ability,

cooperation, general attitude, compatibility with fellow students, class participation, pleasantness and kindness toward others. Glenda has been a member of the national honor society for the past two years. This year she was also awarded the president's physical fitness award.

Glenda has met the challenge of being a living testimony for Christ against the ridicule of some classmates concerning her views on social activities and dress codes. In her history class of about 30, she found herself challenging the evolution theory and her teachers expressed to Glenda's parents that her stand made interesting what would otherwise have been a dull discussion and study.

May God richly bless you, Glenda, as you continue your walk for Him.



We were off on our vacation. We could not have left God behind; and we would not have if we could.

As we motored over the mountains and the rolling plains and observed together the beautiful scenery, we were reminded of the ever-presence of God. How wonderful to know that He accompanies us wherever we go.

"Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me" (Psalm 139:7-11).

In some ways our short vacation seemed to portray the drama of life. So many varied experiences seemed to be wrapped up in those few days.

There was the wedding of two devoted Christian young people, which seemed to portray so well the beauty of a union with Christ as the third partner.

In sharp contrast was the talk I had, during one stop in our journey, with a distraught mother, so concerned because her daughter was experiencing much unhappiness and bitterness because of a broken marriage. While my heart went out to her, I could not refrain from observing that this illustrated the fruits of building a home on shallow religion and social drinking, as compared to her sister's home which was extremely happy and closely-knit, having been built on solid, fundamental godliness.

We rejoiced with my cousin who was the father of newborn twins. These young parents were so happy and content with these marvels of God's creation.

Later we stood at the bedside of one who had been told he had only a few days left in this life and we could only bow our heads and hearts in contrition and self-examination as we were reminded that "... life is but a vapour..." "It is appointed unto man *once* to die..." and that time comes so soon... so very soon.

When our station wagon was broken into, and many of our personal belongings, luggage and clothing were taken, this was so hard for our children to accept. But as we talked with the children about it, we found an opportunity to help them realize the fact that the most important things in life are, after all,

(Continued on page 24)

Teen

Guidelines

Your Preparation For Service

Dale Lawson

"HOW MAY I BE OF SERVICE TO THE CHURCH? This question is being asked more and more because the youth of our church are awakening to the fact that service to God through His church is more important than personal attainment. Praise God for dedicated youth who want to see rapid growth of the church so that thousands more will come to the saving knowledge of the truth.

Young people can and will be of great service to the church. More and more young people are willing to present themselves to God and the church, asking, "What may I do to help?" Many are willing to go to great lengths in preparing themselves for either lay-service or the ministry. Some are training for teaching, with their primary objective that of teaching in one of the church schools.

Others are training in skilled labor with the intention of offering that service to the church. Some pursue business training while others desire to be doctors or nurses and enter missionary work. Some are especially interested in music and its relationship to service in the church. Some want to be writers and others want to be youth workers.

THERE IS A GREAT NEED for all these with the need for ministers being one of the greatest needs we have. God is calling all of us to service. He is calling many young men into the ministry, leaving it up to each to answer that call. Sometimes we are too far from God to hear His call but we can be assured that He is calling. Can you hear His call?

M.B.C. PREPARES YOU FOR SERVICE

Midwest Bible College offers valuable courses for both lay-workers and ministers.

Biblical Foundations

The Biblical Foundations Course is a one-year course geared to offer any young person a solid study in: the validity of God, the Bible and Creation; Bible Doctrines; and Christian Leadership. It offers preparation for good lay service in the church to any young person who later wants to go to secular college for training in his desired profession. It strengthens faith, showing the impossibility of evolutionary theory and exposing "science falsely so called." Every young person of the Church of God is invited to attend M.B.C. and take the Biblical Foundations Course.

The Ministry

The Ministerial Course is a four-year course with the sole purpose of training ministers for the Church of God (7th Day). The need for ministers is critical. If you are dedicated, have ministerial ability, and are willing to follow His call, God needs you in His vineyard. He is calling, but you must answer! Are you close enough to hear His call?

URGENCY

YOUNG PEOPLE ARE AWAKENING

to the needs of the church but we all need to keep in mind that there is an urgency in this matter.

The times in which we live, when young people's needs are so great, make very urgent the need for your answering the call and preparing for either lay or ministerial service. The coming of Christ is soon to be and we have much to do.

The swift passing of life, your rapid journey through the best years of your life, make it urgent that you "give of your best to the Master; give of the strength of your youth."

GOD IS CALLING! Are you close enough to hear?

This matter of your service to the church is up to you. The decision is yours to make while God and the church wait.

"Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:37, 38).

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields: for they are white already to harvest."

"And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together" (John 4:35, 36). (Next page)

TEEN GUIDELINES (Con't.)

Spring Vale Academy is the boarding school of the Church of God (7th Day). It accommodates students from the 9th through the 12th grades. It is located near the city of Owosso, Michigan.

S.V.A. HELPS PREPARE YOU FOR SERVICE

Bob Dais

Spring Vale is a personal experience. Therefore, I do not feel I should persuade anyone to attend SVA until the individual has earnestly prayed about and weighed the whole idea.

Spring Vale has much to offer a young person such as a wholesome atmosphere, fine Christian teachers, new facilities, and the list goes on and on. Admittedly, there are disadvantages. Students must be away from home for long periods of time, and many times an FYC group is weakened by the loss of one young person. My personal opinion is that the advantages of attending SVA far outweigh the disadvantages.

I attended SVA my junior and senior years and graduated in 1968. My experience at SVA those two years was just one tremendous blessing. For me, SVA was the big boost in my life that really set me on the right path. It was hard for me to understand the few who were not satisfied with Spring Vale life, but some dissatisfaction must be expected in any school.

Whether you decide to attend SVA or not, there is a great work for you as a young person to tell others of Christ. God bless you as you make this important decision. If you would

like further information about Spring Vale Academy, please write to: Spring Vale Academy, Rt. 5, 4150 So. M-52, Owosso, Michigan 48867.

SCROLLS OF HOPE

(Continued from page 21)

not those things that can be bought or replaced with money. Our little ones were still healthy and happy. No one could possibly rob us of our health—or our family togetherness—or our faith in God. We were happy that God was there to bring to our minds that "... a man's life consisteth not of the abundance of things which he possesseth."

Perhaps sweetest of all were the farewell words of my 89-year-old grandmother, as we departed from that home. "I'm waiting to hear the trumpet sound," she said—so tired of her deafness which prevented her from hearing much of the conversation around her, and yet strong in the faith that one day those same ears would hear the trump of the Lord when Jesus returns as He has promised.

"He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end" (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

Courage Unexcelled

by Violetta Gammon

The late President Kennedy once stated when discussing courage: "In whatever arena of life one may meet the challenge of courage, whatever may be the sacrifices he faces if he follows his conscience—the loss of his friends, his fortune, his contentment, even the esteem of his fellowmen—each man must decide for himself the course he will follow."

I have a little brunette pen pal in Oklahoma who has looked into her soul and found courage—courage from a Source beyond the limits of man. Seven years ago, Lynn was vacationing with her aunt. It was the summer preceding her senior year in high school. She became very ill; and before she could reach a hospital, she was paralyzed from the waist down. By the time spinal and bulbar polio had run their course, this attractive teen-ager could not move a muscle below her neck.

She graduated from high school at the Research Institute in Houston, Texas, in her iron lung. Her fellow classmates were in iron lungs or wheelchairs.

At first Lynn was bitter. "How could this happen to me?"

she asked. What a typical question. We ask questions like this for such minor things in our own lives. But this was a very major circumstance.

Lynn never gave up, and with the aid of a strange brush which she gripped between her teeth, she began trying to paint as therapy. In a short time her skill was remarkable. One autumn, her oil paintings won the Best of Show Award in one division at the Oklahoma State Fair.

This young lady spends her hours in the extremely limited environment of an iron lung with the exception of about six hours a day in the portable lung. She does her painting during these "free" hours, with the easel only twelve to eighteen inches from her face. After one year in a hospital, the remaining six have been lived in her living room with her attentive mother ever at her side.

I have so often wished to travel the thousand miles to meet my pen pal in person and watch her paint the beautiful scenes with her odd brush. But most of all, I would like to just chat with a young lady who is a pattern of perfection in bravery.

So many teen-agers grow bitter over trivial disagreements with their parents, or complain of physical blemishes, or despair over minor love affairs. Could you face and fight and win a battle like Lynn? It is worth thinking about.

With all her physical limitations she still has a sense of humor. She watches television by looking at a mirror placed above her face. The images are of course reversed for her. "I'm getting good at reading commercials backwards," she laughs.

I think God is especially proud of His children who face life fearlessly, and that surely includes Lynn.

—Selected

AUDITION FOR HAPPINESS

(Continued from page 10)

sat down at the old organ and rested her head on her folded arms. Strangely her tears stopped. She let her heart guide her fingers over the keyboard. Soon she was playing a dear and familiar hymn.

Suddenly she knew.

This was God's way of telling her. This was the sign she had been searching for. Now she could be free to follow the Lord's calling. With this release came a burst of happiness she could only express through her playing.

"Don't stop," a voice from the back of the church ordered when Diana finally took her fingers from the keyboard.

As the figure came down the aisle she recognized Irving Horn. Miss James must have guessed where she

had gone. "It's very kind of you to follow me, Mr. Horn," Diana said. "But I'm quite all right now. And I want to apologize for being so rude in the studio. I realize you came a long way to hear me play."

"I will admit I did follow you here to comfort you," Mr. Horn said. "But when I heard you playing that hymn with all your heart I knew my previous judgment was wrong. I want to offer you a contract with my agency."

"Again you are being very kind, Mr. Horn," Diana replied. "But I've decided to dedicate my life to Jesus Christ. When I play it will be for Him."

Mr. Horn sighed. "I am truly sorry, my dear. You have a great talent. But then you are signing a contract with the greatest Manager of them all!"

When Mr. Horn left, Diana went to the window. The lights were still on at the parsonage across the street.

If a moment of doubt were to come it would be now. She knew her mother might be disappointed. People like Janie might think her pious. But let them! Because in her heart Diana was sure.

She would go tell Greg her decision.

IN VAIN WE BUILD

We are blind until we see

That in the human plan
Nothing is worth the making if

It does not make the man.

Why build these cities glorious

If man unbuilt goes?

In vain we build the world unless

The builder also grows.

—Edwin Markham



by Nathan Lawson

Greetings to each of you in Jesus' Name. This summer is proving to be a pleasantly busy one. We hope that each one of you have attended or are planning to attend a youth camp and perhaps also a camp meeting somewhere this summer.

I plan to be involved in youth camp in both Oregon and Southern California, and also camp meeting in Oregon.

At the date of this writing, I am sending out report forms for the second quarter of the Mark of Merit year. We hope that FYC leaders will send them back quickly so that we can have a report of activities in the next issue of the AIM.

Summer is a busy time. It is a time in which we can easily forget God if we are not careful. As you feel God calling, yield yourself fully to Him. Let God prepare you for active service in your local FYC. Your whole church can be inspired by an ACTIVE FYC.

PROJECT OF THE MONTH—August

Every FYC member read the leaflet tract, "TWO APPOINTMENTS YOU MUST MEET." Read this tract to get the real meaning out of it. We need to keep spiritually fit as young people in God's Church. This tract is brief and plain about the choice we each one must make to be in God's Kingdom.

PRAYER

As long as mortals have the
nerve
To pray for things they don't
deserve;
As long as conscience has a stain,

The prayers of men will be in
vain.

So, humbly, Lord, we ask of thee
That princely gift—sincerity.
And may we use it through life's
span
To build on earth a better man.

HOW TO LIVE THE LIFE OF FAITH

(Continued from page 6)

made salvation possible for us. Admittedly, living a life of faith takes practice; and admittedly, most of us are more like Moses than we are like Noah and Abraham. But God can use you if you are willing. Faith is a gift of God; so ask Him to help you. Don't allow yourself to dwell on doubting, faithless thoughts; erase them by diverting the mind to other thoughts. If you concentrate on thinking negative thoughts, you will not erase them but only make them bigger. Rather, concentrate on thoughts of faith—such as the verses given above—and you will find your faith growing. You will be able

to answer in the positive this question:

When the son of man cometh will he find faith on the earth?

And you will be able to count yourself among those mentioned in Revelation 14:12:

Here is the patience of the saints; here are they that keep the commandments of God and the FAITH of Jesus.

I tremble for my Country
when I reflect that God is just.
—Thomas Jefferson

* * *

HOPE

Hope is like the sun which,
as we journey toward it, casts
the shadow of our burden behind us.
—Samuel Smiles

GOD'S GRANDEUR

The world is charged with the grandeur of God.
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil
Crushed. Why do men then now not reckon his rod?
Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;
And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;
And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell; the soil
Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.
And for all this, nature is never spent;
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;
And though the last lights off the black West went
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs—
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent
World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.

Gerard Manley Hopkins
selected by Carolyn Clements

Youth Doctrine Corner

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



THE MILLENNIAL REIGN OF CHRIST

Official Church of God Doctrine—Article No. 25

- Christ will establish His Kingdom on the earth at His second advent, where the redeemed will reign with Him for 1000 years. This is the "regeneration" period (Matt. 19:28) and also the "times of restitution" (Acts 3:21).
- During this millennial age Christ puts all enemies, including death, under His feet, and at the close of it He turns the Kingdom over to God the Father.

The Beginning of the Millennium

- Second coming of Christ and the first resurrection (Zech. 14:1-9; 1 Cor. 15:22-28; Rev. 20:6).

The Place of the Millennium

- Righteous to reign with Christ on the earth (Rev. 5:10; Rev. 20:6; Zech. 14:9; Job 19:25).
- Meek to inherit the earth (Matt. 5:5; Psa. 37:9, 11, 29 and 34).
- Rule to be over the nations of the earth (Rev. 19:14-16; Rev. 2:26, 27; Rev. 11:15).

The Description of the Millennium

- Christ's government of peace (Isaiah 2:2-4).
- Activities continue for mortals such as before Christ's coming (Isaiah 65:18-25; Zech. 14:1-21).
- Christ to rule from Jerusalem (Luke 1:32, 33).

The Conclusion of the Millennium

- Punishment and death of the wicked (1 Cor. 15:22-28; Rev. 20:11-15).
- Entrance of Holy City and God's throne (Rev. 21:1-5; Rev. 22:1-5).

2T₄G- Take Time for God



By Martha Ling

Although most of the small prophetic books deal with the enemies of Israel or problems of the Israelites at the time of the writings, there are several which contain wonderful promises of the Messiah.

In Micah 5:2, the place of Christ's birth was foretold—Bethlehem. This book also tells of Jesus' second return to earth and reign upon the earth—"for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem" (ch. 4:2b). The time of the Lord's reign will be a time of peace, according to chapter 4.

Zechariah also speaks of Christ's return to the world. He foresees Jerusalem's being reinhabited, and even eventually turning to Christ—the One they pierced! (12:10). The last chapter gives a vivid description of the time of the Lord's kingdom—how He will come and rule over His people.

The last book of the Old Testament, Malachi, also deals with the second advent, only it includes a picture of the punishment of the wicked. It speaks of Christ's return as being a great, but dreadful day (ch. 4:5). If we wish to look upon the day as being a great one, instead of being dreadful, we will have to listen to the admonition found in Micah 6:8: "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

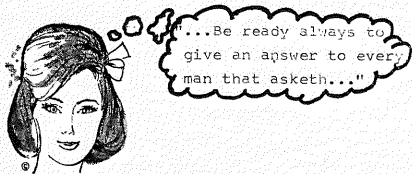
July 15	Micah 3
July 16	Micah 4
July 17	Micah 5
July 18	Micah 6
July 19	Micah 7
July 20	Nahum 1
July 21	Nahum 2
July 22	Nahum 3
July 23	Hab. 1
July 24	Hab. 2
July 25	Hab. 3
July 26	Zeph. 1
July 27	Zeph. 2
July 28	Zeph. 3
July 29	Haggai 1
July 30	Haggai 2
July 31	Zech. 1
Aug. 1	Zech. 2
Aug. 2	Zech. 3
Aug. 3	Zech. 4
Aug. 4	Zech. 5
Aug. 5	Zech. 6
Aug. 6	Zech. 7
Aug. 7	Zech. 8
Aug. 8	Zech. 9
Aug. 9	Zech. 10
Aug. 10	Zech. 11
Aug. 11	Zech. 12
Aug. 12	Zech. 13
Aug. 13	Zech. 14
Aug. 14	Mal. 1

Congratulations are due two young people this month. Both Janice Henderson and Peggy Sue Harris have completed 365 consecutive days of Bible reading and prayer. We are also thankful for those who have completed their first quarter: Dennis O'Banion, Bertha Black, Debbie Massengil, and Janna Patchen. David Robinson and Tim Kester have completed two quarters while Martha Espinosa has finished her third. We pray that all of these young people will remain faithful and will be able to complete the whole year. Those of you who are still trying to complete your first one—don't give up. The Lord can and will help you!

GUARD WELL THY LIPS

The following poem, each line of which is based upon a verse of Scripture, was sent in to *Sunshine Magazine* by Mrs. Annabeth Cartwright of River Forest, Illinois. She found it, yellowed with age, among some old papers of her grandfather's:

Guard well thy lips, none, none can know,	(Prov. 13:3)
What evils from the tongue may flow;	(James 3:5, 6)
What guilt, what grief may be incurred	(Judges 11:35)
By one uncautious, hasty word.	(Mark 6:22, 25, 26)
Be "slow to speak," look well within,	(Prov. 4:5)
To check what there may lead to sin;	(James 1:25)
And pray unceasingly for aid	(Col. 4:2)
Lest, unawares, thou be betrayed.	(Luke 21:34)
"Condemn not, judge not"—not to man	(1 Cor. 4:5)
Is given his brother's faults to scan;	(Matt. 7:3)
The task is thine, and thine alone—	(Matt. 7:5)
To search out and subdue thine own.	(1 Cor. 9:27)
Indulge no murmurings; oh, restrain	(Phil. 2:14)
Those lips so steady to complain;	(Job. 27:4)
And, if they can be numbered, count	(Psa. 103:2, 3)
Of one day's mercies the amount.	(Psa. 29:16)
Shun vain discussions, trifling themes;	(Titus 3:9)
Dwell not on earthly hopes and schemes;	(Matt. 6:34)
Let words of wisdom, meekness, love,	(James 3:13)
Thy heart's true renovation prove.	(Luke 6:45)
Get God before thee; every word	(Psa. 57:5)
Thy lips pronounce by Him is heard;	(Psa. 139:4)
Oh, could'st thou realize this thought	(Luke 12:2)
What care, what caution would be taught!	(Luke 12:3)



by Michael D. Vlad

MINUTEMAN

CHRISTIAN GROWTH

1 John 5:14, 15
1 Thessalonians 5:17
Psalm 55:17
James 5:16
Jeremiah 29:13
Psalm 63:5, 6
Matthew 6:6
1 Timothy 2:8

For the past few months we have been studying steps to Salvation. We studied such topics as "Why did Christ Die?" "Faith" "Repentance and Conversion," "Baptism" and "Obedience."

After we have taken the initial steps to Salvation, we must not stop there, but we must continue to grow in grace and knowledge. For the next few months we are going to study "Christian Growth." We will study such things as Bible reading, Prayer, and others. But for this month, we want to study the importance of...

PRAYER

To a newborn Christian—to any Christian—prayer is a very essential thing. We as human beings, who are so weak when we are in our own strength, must rely on God for help. One way we gain this strength is through prayer.

Jesus Christ was the Son of God. He possessed powers that performed miracles. Jesus was close to God, yet He prayed, many times, all night long. Luke 6:12 records one time when Christ spent all night in prayer. As close as Jesus was to God, He had to spend hours in prayer. Yet, we as Christians barely spend enough time in prayer to gain a close relationship with God.

Daniel is another example of one who spent much time in prayer. In Daniel 6:10 we read of how Daniel knelt three times a day before God and prayed to Him. This contributes to the reason why Daniel was a success in Babylon, because he continually prayed to God.

In our present world, with its complex problems, we, as followers of Jesus Christ, need to pray constantly. The Apostle Paul said in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 to pray without ceasing. To draw close to God we all must pray.

National Leadership Retreat

On August 21, youth leaders from all over the U.S.A. will be gathering at Boulder, Colorado, for the first National Leadership Retreat ever to be held by the Church of God.

Although emphasis has been placed on attendance by the FYC officers, any young people desiring to attend the retreat may do so even though they are not officers. However, unless they are designated as an official representative of some local FYC group, they will have to sponsor their own way.

The Young People's Department has been encouraging local FYC groups to sponsor their FYC chairmen to the retreat and, from reports that have come to us, many of the FYC groups plan to do that. That sponsorship should include travel expense and a camp fee of \$5.00.

The National FYC has written to transportation coordinators for each area where our FYC groups are located so that good planning will be done and all will have opportunity for transportation.

The National FYC would like to hear from any FYC group that cannot send its leader so that necessary arrangements may be made to make it possible for all leaders to attend.

Any FYC'er who is not an officer or the official representative of an FYC group will be charged \$7 for a camp fee.

Make sure you have a representative at the first National Leadership Retreat.



AND REMINDERS

FYC Ballpoint Pens

FYC ballpoint pens? Yes, they have been ordered and should be available by the time you receive your July AIM.

The pens come with attractive black, blue and green barrels with silver tops, are fine point, and have printed on the pen barrels:

Faithful Youth Challengers
Church of God (7th Day)

"Let no man despise thy youth..."
(1 Tim. 4:12).

2T4G—Evangelette—Minute
Man

Youth Camps for You

The North Carolina, Missouri, Oregon and Michigan youth camps have been held and all reports indicate fine success in these camps.

Southern California and District No. 4 youth camps are yet to be held. If you live in either of these areas be sure to attend the camp for you. Check elsewhere in this magazine for the dates of these camps.

FYC Sweaters Re-ordered

The new FYC sweaters are going like "hot cakes." A new order was placed and received and we are now

thinking of making a third order. Please send in your order soon if you want a sweater so that we will know whether or not to place the third order.

The sweaters come in large, medium, and small, sizes and apple green and lemon yellow colors. Thus far one color has been just about as popular as the other.

Administrative Committee Meeting

The Administrative Committee (chairmen of the seven departments of the Church of God) will be meeting at the District No. 2 Camp Meeting, July 8-11. Elder Dale Lawson,

chairman of the Young People's Department, will be traveling to the meeting from Stanberry, Missouri, along with several other departmental chairmen who live in the Stanberry area.

Mark of Merit

"Stick to your guns!" Thirty-two FYC groups are now in the Mark of Merit program and we are looking for all of them to stay with it.

Other groups may yet join and are urged to do so if they haven't already. Don't miss the benefits of this splendid program.

LEADERSHIP RETREAT LOCATION

Rocky Mountain Seventh Day Baptist Camp is located on Lee Hill Rd., 12 miles north of Boulder, Colorado.

A WORD TO THE WISE . . .

Young people are looking to **SPRING VALE ACADEMY** for an education that doesn't leave God out of your life nor *you* out of school activities.

- New Gym
- New Classroom Building
- New Dining Area
- New Classroom Furniture

For your bulletin, write to: **Spring Vale Academy, Rt. 5, Owosso, Mich. 48867**



Youth Camp Time -- 1970

* SASKATCHEWAN *

Time **August 9-16**

For ages **8-25**

Place: **Paul Hayes' Cabins**, Candle Lake, Saskatchewan

Fees: \$12 per camper (reduced rates for two or more from one family)
Send to: Elder Nick Nimchuk, P. O. Box 1496, Nipawin, Saskatchewan

* CALIFORNIA *

Time: **August 9-16**

For ages **9-25**

Place: **Pacific Pines Youth Camp**, Crestline, California

Fees: \$18.00 per camper (includes registration fee—\$4.00)
Send to: Mrs. Eileen Rodgers, Box 136, Ontario, California 91762

* OKLAHOMA *

Time: **July 19-26**

For ages **9-25**

Place: **Lake Texoma State Park**, Kingston, Oklahoma

Fees: \$15.00 per camper (includes registration fee—\$3.00)
Send to: Allan R. Burlison, 1106 Spent Wing Drive, San Antonio, Tex. 78213

1970 Camp Meetings

SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT CAMP MEETING

August 9-15

OKLAHOMA—Dover Campgrounds

For further information, write to:
Elder Archie B. Craig, 2237 N. Toledo Ave., Tulsa, Oklahoma 74115

DISTRICT SIX CAMP MEETING

August 16-23

MARYLAND—Camp Wabanna, 32 miles from the nation's capital
For reservations, write to:

Elder W. H. Olson, 3022 Bladensburg Rd., N. E., Washington, D. C. 20018

Check "Messenger" or District Reporters for more detailed information.