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Vol. XXXV, No. 6

Hope E. Dais, Editor

He that has never known adversity, is but half acquainted with others, or with himself. Constant success shows us but one side of the world. For, as it surrounds us with friends, who will tell us only our merits, so it silences those enemies from whom alone we can learn our defects.—COLTON

Contents of this Issue

Decisions for Graduates <i>Cecyl Fischer</i>	page 3
Thank You, Dear Lord <i>Mrs. Arnold Werley</i>	page 7
The Miracle of Commitment <i>Mrs. Lionel Patton</i>	page 8
Minuteman	page 9
Tell Me, Please <i>Ray L. Straub</i>	page 10
The Choice <i>Mary Holbert</i>	page 11
Trip to Nowhere <i>Richard McKenzie</i>	page 13
Dear Teenager <i>Ruth Scherle</i>	page 14
Happy Is That People <i>Gina Tolbert</i>	page 16
Why a Generation Gap? <i>Stanley J. Kauer</i>	page 18
Evangelette <i>Sheryl Youngs</i>	page 23
Into Every Nation—Germany <i>John Lemley</i>	page 26
Youth Doctrine Corner	page 28
Mark of Merit <i>Nathan Lawson</i>	page 29
2T4G—Take Time for God <i>Martha Ling</i>	page 30
Book Review Corner—Twelve Angels from Hell <i>Marilyn Current</i>	page 32
News and Reminders	page 33



*Decisions
for
Graduates*

(A revised version of a talk given to SVA senior girls.)

by Cecyl Fischer

I guess every graduating class has a class prophecy. Most, however, are not approached very seriously and turn out to be grossly inaccurate. A look at a graduating class of five or six years ago, however, can give this year's graduate an idea of the possible category in which he may find himself in 1976. Here is a '66 graduate who is working on his Master's Degree. Here is one who entered college later and is now better than halfway toward his Bachelor's. Here is one who opted for factory work, one who took a position in an uncle's business. Here is a Technician, here is a beautician, another is a housewife and mother, another a graduating minister, yet another a minister's wife. Here is an RN, here an LPN and here a young man in medical school. Looking further we find a young farmer, a young teacher, a secretary. All of these represent important decisions—decisions that you, the class of '71, are now faced with.

No doubt all through your high school years, you have complained periodically that parents and teachers were always telling you what to do. Now suddenly you are on your own and you wish someone WOULD tell you what to do.

DECISION-MAKING CAN BE DIFFICULT AND FRIGHTENING, it's true—and many an adult accomplishes far less than his ability because he never learns to face it with courage and

faith, but lets opportunities pass and lets chance rule. I, too, have found decisions painful and frightening, and my own biography would reveal some opportunities missed or muffed by in-decision, but along the way I have also learned a few secrets of dealing with this monster and have realized some successes as a result.

The basic secret can be put in one sentence. **IF YOU MAKE THE SMALL DECISIONS RIGHT, YOU WON'T GO FAR WRONG ON THE BIG ONES.** "All things work together for good to them that love God..." (Rom. 8:28). Life is, in a sense, like a crossword puzzle. A puzzle may include a long and difficult word that reaches from margin to margin. If you try to begin here or fill it in carelessly, you may never complete your puzzle. But if you work on the smaller words that cross into it, your solution will soon become evident. A second lesson of life can be learned from the crossword puzzle. When it becomes evident that you have made a mistake, be it small or great, do you have an eraser on your pencil? If you are too stubborn to admit your mistake and ask forgiveness, you have the difficult task of building around that mistake. Your puzzle (or your life) may become quite involved.

Perhaps it is also possible to make all the *big* decisions right (good intentions), but then proceed to make all the *little* decisions wrong. Here again, your puzzle (or your life) will never add up to success. The natural question then is, "But how do I make the little decisions right?" This is answered in Psalm 37:5, "Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

Make all your decisions within the framework of your devotion to God and all will indeed work together for good.

One of the joyous things about accepting Christ is that a lot of little bothersome decisions are made for you. Decisions that another person makes day by day or week by week, a Christian may make only once in his lifetime, by his acceptance of Christ. "Should I go to church this month?" "Can I afford an offering?" "Should I buy a miniskirt?" "Should I cover this mistake with a white lie?" These decisions were made when you accepted Christ as Saviour.

WHEN WE ACCEPT CHRIST, OUR WHOLE FOCUS IN LIFE CHANGES. In many cases our big decisions become little ones, things that seemed all-important suddenly are not important at all. Before you accept Christ it seems terribly important to choose just the right career, to make yourself known in the world, to earn lots of money, to live in the most comfortable way for, after all, "you only live once." When you accept Christ these things become merely electives in a prescribed course, and if you've been leafing through college catalogs, you know what I'm talking about.

One of your big decisions will be choosing a career, and along with it deciding whether or not to go on to college and if so what type of college and for how long? It may give you courage to realize two things—First, your decision is not irreversible, and secondly, unless you have been called to the ministry or missionary work, there are probably any number of lines of work in which you could be perfectly happy. I know any number of people who trained in one field

and eventually worked in another or who began in one field and during their education switched to another. If you are one of those who has chosen his career some time ago you are fortunate indeed; but if you have not don't feel that you are different. Take the opportunities that come to you and start working whether it be in school or on the job. Chances are the road will unfold before you, but if instead you should find that this is not for you, you will then be in a position to make a better decision. If you have not chosen a career, but feel that you would like further education, just choose a field of study in line with your interests and begin. The way will become clearer as you mingle with professors and students in the field.

If you have chosen your career, but not your college, make that choice with Christ in mind. Consider where your witnessing is most apt to find footing and your spiritual backbone some backing.

Be sure you use valid reasoning before you reject any possibility. Do you know what you would like to do, but feel it is beyond your reach? The key here is "possibility thinking." Any number of scholarships go unclaimed each year and many of these are awarded as much on need as on grades, but no one applies. We hear such statements as, "I'd like to go to medical school, but, my, I'd be 28 before I got out." Ask yourself, How old will you be in ten years if you don't go?

If you have decided not to go to college, what type of job will you seek or accept or, more to the point, what type of job will you not accept? Here again consider such things

as the atmosphere you will be working in, the temptations you are apt to face, the opportunities to witness. For girl graduates who are undecided, the temptation may be just to go husband-hunting. This can be dangerous. Plan your life as though you were going to stay single and let love come in its own time.

THIS BRINGS US TO ANOTHER DECISION YOU ARE LIKELY TO FACE within the next 5-10 years—marriage. Be careful here for, unlike your choice of career, your choice of a marriage partner is *not* reversible. And it will have a far greater effect on your life than your choice of career, for the kind of marriage you have will affect not only your home life, but your social life, your career, and even your spiritual life. It can even affect your eternal life if you marry unwisely and become drawn away from Christ. Yet even here you can make this decision with ease and confidence if you make all the *little* decisions right. By taking care in the little decisions you will never be faced with the **GREAT BIG** decision "Should I marry this unbeliever?"

The important thing to remember is to choose your dates carefully, for you are at an age when one of those you date will likely become your marriage partner. "What part hath he that believeth with an infidel?" (II Cor. 6:15). How can you say that Christ is the most important thing in your life—and marry someone you cannot share Him with? One of the little decisions you must make rightly then is, "Should I go out with this one?"; "Should I *continue* going out with this one?"; "Is he (she) drawing me away from Christ?"; "Is there more to this relationship than

physical attraction?"; "Am I dating him (or her) for the right reasons?"; "Do I just feel gratitude or sympathy rather than real friendship?"

When you think you may have found the right one for you, you must still make some little decisions that will guide you through an important testing time. Ask yourself, "Have we talked over the things that will matter later?"; "Are we tempting ourselves too much?" (Don't compromise yourself at this late date; you *will* suffer.) "Am I hoping to change him or her?" (Don't count on it. The quickest way to change a molehill into a mountain is to marry it.) Above all, don't be deceived by the modern notion of "finding out if you are sexually compatible." This is milarky! I am certain it is rare indeed for a marriage to be wrecked by sexual incompatibility—or saved by sexual compatibility. Oh, some may be blamed on that, but the real trouble lies elsewhere. In a marriage based on love, understanding and unselfishness, sexual relations will be the most natural adjustment to be made.

YES, GRADUATES, YOU DO HAVE BIG DECISIONS AHEAD OF YOU, but remember this—What you do in the next few years is not nearly as important as *how you do it*. You may not have decided what you want to do, but you should have decided what you are. In the coming kingdom neither your job, your education, your wealth, nor your marriage will matter, but your life will. Whatever your choice this summer, along with it will come a certain set of problems and temptations.

If you opt for college are you ready for the professors who will

ridicule religion and treat it as a superstition? Are you ready for the students who will chide you for being "straight"? One Church of God college graduate testifies that one of his earliest experiences in college was facing a test for which the answers were "for sale." Are you ready for this?

If you opt for a job are you ready to deal with those who would walk on you to get ahead? Are you ready to deal with the temptation to gossip when others bring gossip to you, the temptation to slough off when the boss is absent, or to pilfer small items or materials from your place of business because "everyone does it" and it does seem so insignificant? Remember, people are expecting more of you because you are a Christian—and so does God!

If you are considering marriage, are you ready to contribute what a marriage requires? If your partner should contribute only 30%, are you ready to contribute 70%? This is sometimes what it takes. Sure, the ideal marriage is closer to 50-50, but very few actually work out that way. One might paraphrase John F. Kennedy's famous quotation to say, "Ask not what this marriage can do for you, ask what you can do for this marriage." I picked up a good piece of philosophy in reading an autobiography of a wife and her husband in which they had a difference of opinion about a certain thing and her words were "I decided to keep my thoughts unspoken, in which form they were much easier cancelled at a later time." This is wonderful advice, for words spoken hastily can never be taken back, even though forgiveness may be asked.

(Continued on page 31)

Thank You, Dear Lord

by Mrs. Arnold Werley

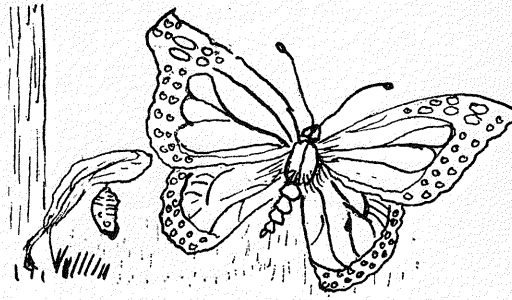
Written by a bride of less than a year, may this poem help us to consider the gratitude and mutual understanding which help make a marriage happy and lasting.



Thank You, Dear Lord, for letting him be so kind and tender.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for all the good times
We've had which I'll always remember.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for the twinkle in his eye
When we have a joke to share.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for his being there
When I have a need or care.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for his life that always
Seems to be singing a song.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for making him so strong
When everything seems to be going wrong.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for the wholesome simpleness

Of our daily fun.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for the way he overlooks it
When the house isn't cleaned and the dishes aren't done.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for his patience
When I scorch his Sabbath shirt.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for the way he explains to me
The things that hurt.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for his understanding
When his dinner I burn.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for the willingness
He gives me to learn.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for the way he's always
Ready to help when there is something to do.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for his eagerness
To learn more about You.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for his loving concern
When daylight finds me ill.
Thank You Dear Lord for placing him
In his shoes which no one else could fill.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for making him
So strong and fine.
Thank You, Dear Lord, for giving me
This wonderful husband of mine.

The Miracle of Commitment



by Mrs. Lionel Patton, guidance counselor at Ft. Payne High School

"While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest; and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

When spring comes up my valley, God is keeping His commitment. Is there less of the miracle in it than last year—than in the beautiful days of our youth when every leaf was a mystery, or our adolescence when every hill was a challenge; than our teen years when love was new in life's green spring, than our early maturity when purpose is succeeded by accomplishment?

But since last spring some of us have walked with the uncommitted and have lessened our own zeal; have held hands with despair and have lowered our gaze until we no longer see the mountain peaks, have met misunderstanding and lost the ra-

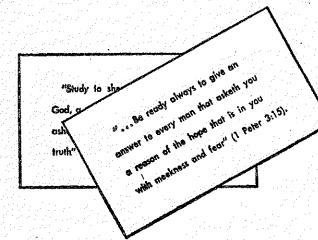
diance of meaningful experiences. But God invested as much beauty in this spring as in any He ever created. "Flower in the crannied wall... if I could understand what you are, root and all, I would know what God and man is." Too often we are the children of Reason until we miss the miracle. We are like the participant in the research project, needing material from St. Augustin's *The City of God*. A search of the library card-index system under Philosophy failed to turn up the listing. A check under Religion was also negative. A librarian finally located the work—under City Planning.

Too often we are fearful of abandoning ourselves to the beautiful, transient springtime in our world. Emerson said: "None but the brave can afford Fear." If your knees are knocking, kneel on them... courage is fear that has said its prayers. Over the mantel of the Hinds Head Hotel at Bray, England, is this inscription

lettered at the time of Dunkirk: "Fear knocked at the door, Faith answered, No one was there."

Faith in a world of beauty will lead you again into the adventure of beauty. Call it love, sympathy, concern or involvement, your tie to the rest of man can never be cut, any more than God's seasons can refuse to follow in continuous succession. You can't repudiate with your connection to those about you. The more we are preoccupied with ourselves, the more we diminish. Too

often we roadblock our way to happiness. So each of us must fill the well that when we are alone we will draw from. Each of us has untold resources in physical endurance, mental reserves, emotional power and spiritual stamina. Jesus said, "Do not be anxious for tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself." Jesus was a realist. You must be committed to seeing the springtime—the fresh, the new, the uninhibited, or spring—when it comes up our valley—will pass us by.



MINUTEMAN

(Verse Memorization Program)

Some of the revolutionaries such as those mentioned in last month's MINUTEMAN are really looking for a better way. Many people (also in search of a better way) follow these revolutionaries in their search. Though these leaders are wrong, it seems so easy for thousands to string along.

God in all His wisdom has provided a true "revolutionary" way through the teaching of Christ. How can we follow?

We can follow the "revolutionary" teachings of the Son of God if we are willing to take several measures to insure our strength. From the following memory texts, note the steps that will make you a "Christlike revolutionary."

Submit—James 4:7

Word—Matthew 4:4

Prayer—Matthew 26:41

Spirit—Romans 8:9

Action—James 1:22

Fellowship—Colossians 3:16

Witness—Colossians 4:6

Endurance—Matthew 24:13

Tell Me, Please

Youth Questions
answered by
Ray L. Straub



QUESTION:

My problem concerns cheating in school. I have a friend whose affection and respect I don't want to lose. He is a plenty nice guy and he is part of a gang around school whose company I dig. I want to be "in" with them. These guys aren't trouble-makers. Several of them are popular and active on our sports teams. This one guy sits behind me in a class that is a bit too much for him. When exams are given, he wants me to slump down so he can look over my shoulder and "borrow" a few answers. I don't mind, and it is really he that is cheating. Do you see it this way?

ANSWER:

I hope your slumping down has not bent your spine as badly as it has your ability to recognize right from wrong! You are both cheating, and you know it, or else you would not have sought approval.

I'll let you in on something. Your friend doesn't respect you now—just your ability to give him some answers. If he would respect you, he wouldn't make you partner to his shoddy behavior. You need to show your worth-

iness to be respected by informing him that you can't "cooperate" any longer. If the group you like is worth your attention, they will respect your feelings. If they don't, it's about time you found out about them.

Exams are given so that the teacher can determine how much each student knows. With this information, the instructor can be of more specific help to the individuals in his class. Your exam should reveal what you know, and your friend's exam should reveal what he knows.

Incidentally, the teacher is probably aware of your silly little game and pities you both. When two people sitting that close together come up with the same wrong answers, it's more than coincidence!

QUESTION:

The other night after a youth meeting people were standing around in groups visiting, as they usually do. I just happened to overhear a story that was told about a good friend of mine. It caught my ear when I heard her name. I was horrified at what was said, but I didn't let on that I heard. The story isn't even

true. Do you think I should tell my friend what is being said about her?

ANSWER:

I think you need some light on what it means to be a friend. If you knew the story was untrue, you should have informed the storyteller on the spot. Instead you acted like you didn't hear.

Since you felt it was not important enough to squelch on the spot, I surely don't see what good it will do to tell it to your friend.

Remain silent until you hear the story again. That will be the time to speak up. If this gossip reaches its victim, that will be soon enough, and it will not come through a friend.

The Choice

by Mary Holbert

"...Choose you this day whom ye will serve..." (Joshua 24:15).

Joshua spoke those words a long time ago, but the choice is as vital today as it was in that age. Those people were living in the land of the Amarites and had a choice—serve Amarite gods or the true God. Joshua made a choice: "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Coming down to the days of Matthew, the choice was still to be made. Matthew said, "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon" (6:24).

What is meant by mammon? Luke 9:9-13 gives us clues. Verse

9 mentions "mammon of unrighteousness." The verse eleven clue is "unrighteous mammon," and verse 13 again reinforces the conviction that "you cannot serve God and mammon."

Is this choice of whom we will serve more difficult to make today than in the past? Many young people think so for the temptation to follow trends of their peers is strong. The communication media is constantly extolling the "now" generation with its search for a better world. The "Jesus" movement, the so-called new morality, the new freedom of speech, the new trends in clothes, the new drug scene—all this and more is confusing to the young as well as the old. True, the danger is great, that youth today can be insidiously drawn into a way

not pleasing to God. But every generation of young people had temptations to face and choices to make.

Times change, but God has not changed His standard. His standard fits conditions today as in Joshua's day or in Matthew's day. God's standard never grows old. The choice must be made. No compromise is possible. You cannot have one foot in the world of mammon and one in the world of God.

Jesus prayed to God "... not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine" (John 17:9). As Jesus continued to pray He said, "I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from evil" (verse 15). Jesus didn't pray just for the ones who were living at that time "... but for them also which shall believe on me..." (verse 20), which means the prayer included all of us today who believe on the Lord. Jesus wanted, for us, the help of God to keep us from evil.

Is it time to review that choice we have made?

Is it a clear-cut one between God and mammon—between righteousness and unrighteousness?

The ways of unrighteousness are many and varied. These ways range from violent crimes punishable by the laws of our land, to wrath, strife, envyings, revellings and such like. Ephesians 5:4 includes foolish talking and jesting, which are not convenient. Galatians 5:19-23

contrasts the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit and emphatically states in verse 21 that they which do the things of the flesh, whether punishable by the laws of our land or not, shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

It is important to make the choice for God! "Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them" (Ephesians 5:6, 7).

Be not among the children of disobedience! "I'M NOT GOING TO BE: I'VE MADE MY CHOICE—I CHOOSE GOD!" A wonderful choice!

Wherein, then, are the dangers? Not in the violent crimes, but in an unawareness of the wiles of Satan who knows just wherein one is weak. Ephesians 6:11 brings this to mind when we are told, "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." For one person the wiles may be no more than the provoking him to foolish talking and jesting which are not convenient; for another to envy; for another person it may be the devil's creating in him a lack of zeal and lukewarmness to God. Certainly all of us face dangers, not just from flesh and blood, but against wicked spirits in heavenly places. (See Ephesians 6:12.)

The only way, then, for us to choose God as a way of life and
(Continued on page 15)

An experience with drugs . . .

TRIP TO NOWHERE



by Richard McKenzie

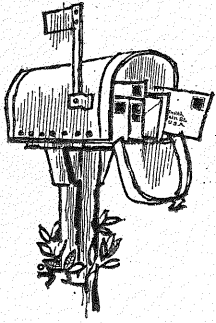
Blood boils upon the floor as lemonade drips from the ceiling.
Marmalade pours through the door where flowers of love are growing.
Through the azure smoke, lights of yellow and green beckon me
home.

Suddenly knocked to the floor by a lampshade, I feel uptight.
Instantly, the light bulb explodes with a flash of blinding light.
THIEVES ARE COMING TO STEAL MY MIND.
The room turns black while my ears echo as footsteps come,
Louder, still LOUDER . . . **THEY'RE COMING TO PLUNDER MY MIND.**

Horrid pictures of torment gush from my subconscious.
Closing metamorphic walls laugh as they crush my chest.
I cannot escape. I cannot hide. OH GOD, HELP ME!

THIEVES ARE COMING TO STEAL MY MIND!
My brain, aflame with pain, rolls to the floor.
Thieves streak past, whirling

away
with
my



Dear Teenager

Dear Teenager,

“What’s with my Mom and Dad,” you may ask. “Why all the advice, why all the concern, why all the solemn words of wisdom?” Let’s take a look at what makes your parents “tick.”

If you had lived in pioneer days when there were bears, mountain lions, rattlesnakes and other dangers every time you stepped out of the door, your parents would have warned you over and over against these dangers. They never would have permitted you to face them unprepared. It was the physical dangers they had to guard against then. In those days immorality was frowned upon by all of society. Do you think modern-day dangers are ANY LESS? It is much harder for parents today! Now those wanting to corrupt the young are teaching there is no such thing as real morality—that it is your right to do as you want. According to those trying to destroy our country by destroying its morals, desire is the only important thing that should guide you. In spite of the extreme need for parental guidance which these conditions present, this parental guidance and control is often resented by the younger set.

Parents must start when the child is very young to teach him a child of God is different from children of the world. It must be impressed on the child there is a good REASON for this difference—that it is not just for the sake of being different! You know we cannot live OUT of the world, or we would have no effective way to witness for Christ; but we must have the knowledge and discipline that will enable us to face the spiritual dangers.

When you were younger you probably daydreamed of how you would protect yourself if confronted with enemies from outer space. You are confronted every day by enemies MORE DANGEROUS than any physical enemy from anywhere. Physical enemies are able to kill only your physical body, if permitted to

do so. Spiritual enemies can take from you your eternal life.

Christian parents try to prepare their children for confrontation with their spiritual enemies early in life. If they fail, it is harder to reach them in later life. Parents should try to understand their children, of course, but sometimes it is because teenagers REFUSE to try to understand the problems of their parents that there is discord between them.

You, as teenagers (even if your own parents have failed to make you understand the dangers you face today), can surely look around at the havoc these false teachings have brought to the young people who *have been* deceived by them.

It is much easier to be a permissive parent than to be one interested enough in the child’s future to say “NO” when children want something that is not good for them. We see today the result of TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF PERMISSIVENESS. You teenagers who have not had discipline will now have a harder time to DISCIPLINE YOURSELF. You must search for the right way. It will not be easy. If you want it, help is always near.

Lovingly,
Ruth Scherle

THE CHOICE

(Continued from page 12)

continue in that choice is to keep in communication with a Power which is greater than these wicked spirits; namely God. We communicate with Him by “praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints” (Verse 18). With this communication we can be as confident as the Psalmist who said, “It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect” (19:32).

Is this CHOICE TO SERVE GOD a worthy one? YES, for we are told “He that overcometh

shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son” (Revelation 21:7).

EACH DAY

by Everett Wentworth Hill

Try thinking happy thoughts each day, such a habit will not harm you. Think success and not defeat, then trials of life will not alarm you.

Carry smiles to those you meet, for that will help them through the day. Give praise to those deserving praise, for that will aid them on their way.

Put your talents to good use and form constructive things to do. Be positive in character and let your deeds reflect in you. —Selected

Happy Is That People

by Gina Tolbert



This type of Christian is never doing the laughing, but rather, is being laughed at. We'll all agree that type of person is not a happy individual, let alone a happy Christian.

Henry Schmidt, a well-known

columnist whose column deals with financial problems of the elderly, recently summed up another idea of Christianity and happiness. Someone wrote to him complaining because his elderly father was giving a lot of money to a certain church. The comment from the columnist went something like this: If it made the father happy to give money to his church, fine. In so doing he was buying some eternal security. This line of thinking goes along with the idea that happiness comes from going to church once a week, being kind to your fellow man and trying to do more good than bad.

A young couple tried this type of life several years ago. On Sabbath, they were the best of "Christians." The young wife tried especially hard to be a good example of a Christian before her husband. But during the rest of the week, the story was different. There was very little to show that either one was much different than anyone else in the world.

Only after a terrible argument, when the husband announced he had had enough of a once-a-week religion and it would either change or else, did both get down to serious business with God. Only after God came into their lives, taking first place in their hearts, did they find the true meaning of happiness.

Happiness is not found at the local tavern, contentment is not found on the dance floor, nor is

peace of mind found at the movie theater. But happiness IS found in Christ's teaching. Contentment IS found by obeying the principles set down for us in the Bible. Peace of mind IS found in having Christ within us.

Anyone who has put on the Lord Jesus Christ and let Him take full possession of his life, does not have to look to the things of the world for "fun." It is fun to serve the Lord!

A Christian is not the sober and stern individual we often read about. "Fun" is not a foreign word to him. "Fun" just takes on a brand new meaning when one becomes a Christian.

When one is fully surrendered to the Lord, it is fun to go to church and take part in the programs the church offers. Offerings are cheerfully given to support the church, not because the Christian thinks he is "buying eternal security," but because he loves the Lord and wants the Gospel message proclaimed to all the world so that others might have the joy he has.

Ecclesiastes 3:4 speaks of a time to weep and a time to laugh. True, the Christian's path is not always easy. But with the Spirit of Christ within a person, there is true contentment, which is the only pure happiness. "... Happy is that people, whose God is the Lord" (Psalm 144: 15). Have you found that pure happiness? What do YOU do for fun?

"What DO you Christians do for fun?" the girl was earnest with her inquiry, yet a little exasperated with my answers to her previous questions.

The fact that I didn't take part in the weekly check pool started our conversation. She questioned me about smoking, drinking, dancing and going to shows, all of which, as a Christian, I didn't do. How could I stand the dull life I surely must lead? Did I never have fun?

At first, her questions surprised me. Fun? It seemed as though I was always having fun, though not in the ways she thought. I didn't and still don't feel I have missed anything by not doing the things of the world.

After thinking about her question, however, I can understand why she feels Christians lead a dull life. If all she sees of Christians is that which is displayed in stories, plays, TV and movies, it is no wonder she thinks Christianity is dull and unappealing. There the "Christian" is usually portrayed as a stern and sober individual. He spends his time quoting, or more often misquoting, scripture after scripture in order to pull motes out of everyone's eyes. All the while he is overlooking some beam in his own eye.

by Stanley J. Kauer

Why a Generation Gap??

WE ARE LIVING IN THE "PERILOUS TIMES" of the last days. There is danger of vast destruction from atomic bombs and other modern instruments of warfare. It is dangerous to ride on the highways as automobile accidents are ever on the increase. The rising tide of crime makes it unsafe to walk in public parks and on many streets in the cities. And now we are told the air we breathe and the water we drink may be unsafe because of pollution.

But these things, bad as they are, are not the real dangers—and they are not the perils of which the Bible warns. The great dangers are within people. They are social evils. "For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy" (2 Timothy 3:2).

In these times we can surely expect to find these conditions in the world, even as we do. There is a general tendency to rebellion against accepted standards and ways of life. The older order is called the "establishment" and many youth are determined to abolish it; so we have college campus riots and many school disturbances. Even among church people there is a lack of understanding and affection between children and their parents. This is often referred to as the "generation



gap." Why does such exist and should it be so in Christian homes?

*"Let No Man
Despise Thy Youth"*

IN 1 TIMOTHY 4:12 WE READ: "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers. . . ." Today many youth are conducting themselves

in such a way that adults in general look down upon them. They wear strange clothing which may also be unkept and soiled and is often immoral. The long hair on boys and the long straggly hair on girls and the general irresponsibility of many youth cause many adults to be disgusted with them. In other words, they give cause to be "despised" because their exam-

ple is rejected by their parents. This general trend has become widespread so that it is even noticed among some of the young people of the Church of God. Is this what we should expect and condone? What should be the attitude and conduct of Church of God young people?

Bible Examples

THERE ARE MANY BIBLE EXAMPLES showing the relationship between youth and their parents (or others of the older generation). These personal-relationship examples are valid in all ages and times. The fact that we now have automobiles, television, great colleges, and many more millions of people does not change the obligation of youth to parents or of parents to youth. God established the family and He made it one of His commandments that children should honor their parents.

As a youth, Isaac was obedient to his father in every respect. He was even willing to be made a sacrifice if that was what God had told his father to do. And he also was satisfied to allow his father to arrange for his marriage, since that was the custom of the time. He was in no way rebellious against the "establishment" of his time.

In Jacob and Esau we have examples of two kinds of sons. Esau professed love for his fa-

ther but was actually irresponsible. He sold his birthright and then later tried to claim it. Jacob was not perfect and should have used other means than what he did to secure the birthright which had been sold to him. But in the end Jacob proved to be the more faithful son. For one thing, Esau married against the wishes of his parents, and his wives were said to be a "grief of mind" to them. Jacob followed the advice of his mother and went to marry among his own people so that his home would be in harmony with the laws of God.

There are many other examples in the Old Scriptures, including Joseph, Samuel, David, and Daniel. Each grew up from childhood in obedience to his parents. As a youth, each was a good example and each received the special blessings of God. But each of these Biblical examples would probably be looked down upon if they lived today. They would have been considered "corny" or "sissy" or foolish. It is often the case that those who become the leading good citizens of the country—the teachers, the ministers, the bankers (and other professional men)—have a difficult time in youth. And so one should not be discouraged if he or she is in elementary or high school, trying to live a good life—and is persecuted for it.

Why a "Generation Gap"?

NOW LET US CONSIDER THE MANY SINCERE YOUNG PEOPLE

who feel that there really is a generation gap today. Why do they feel this way? They may say it is because parents and other older folks are insincere or hypocritical, saying one thing and doing another. No doubt there are some like that in the world. But there are also many who are sincere and who live up to what they teach. It is easy for youth to tend to believe the worst about all older people; but in all progressive and happy cultures, the way of life is set by the elders. This is especially true of people of God. Hebrew youth followed the example of their parents. Today the people of modern Israel are the most progressive and dedicated people in the world. I did not see any "hippies" in Israel. You have not heard of any riots at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, nor of any lack of discipline or morale in the Israeli army. The same was true in pioneer times in America. When people were working hard for a cause or to make homes in a new land, there was no generation gap.

There need be no generation gap today and should be none in Christian homes. The Bible teaches parents to bring up their children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). This same verse also says that fathers should not provoke their children to wrath. This means not to make unreasonable demands or restrictions upon them. But the godly parents are to determine the standards to be followed. The Bible

says "Children, obey your parents," not "parents, obey your children"!

What about "wild oats"?

WHEN TEEN-AGE YOUNG PEOPLE BECOME WAYWARD and worldly, some parents are inclined to say that they are just "sowing their wild oats" and that is to be expected. They reason that later they will return to godly ways. This is a very dangerous line of thought. It is true that Jesus gave the parable of the Prodigal Son. He also gave the parable of the one lost sheep. There is rejoicing when one does return—because that is a comparatively rare occurrence. There were ninety-nine sheep in the fold which did not go astray. And most of the strays are not found. If parents have truly Christian homes, where time is taken for prayer, Bible reading and quiet discussion of the problems of the children, there will be a mutual understanding and love. Children will grow up desiring to walk in the Christian ways of their parents. They will be in Sabbath school from the cradle-roll up. They will join and take an active part in the F.Y.C. They will enjoy youth camps and camp meetings, and want to attend a Church of God academy for high school years. They will be converted at a relatively early age. Conversion will be a recognition of their need of Christ for salvation. One does not have to be living a life of vile sin in order to be converted. The life of one who has

been obedient in a Christian home will not appear to others to be very much different after his baptism. But he will feel within a special joy and satisfaction in following on to know the Lord and be obedient to His call.

No Greater Joy

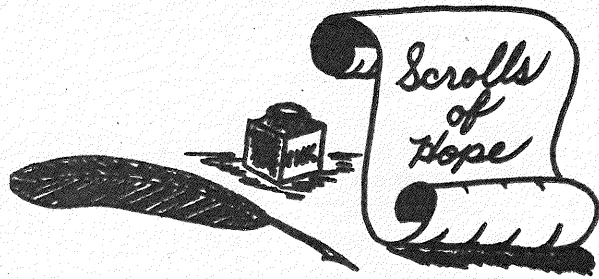
"I HAVE NO GREATER JOY than to hear that my children walk in truth." (3 John 4). Surely the ideal is for children to be brought up in and continue in the way of the Lord. "Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth" (Eccl. 12:1). In a Christian home, with Christian parents and youth, there will be no "generation gap." Let us not set our standards by the ways of the "hippie type" youth, or even by those of other worldly youth. Listen to the "older generation" and pray that God will guide and bless so that young and old can find the good way of life together.

SEEDS OF FAITH

Father, let me feel Thee near
In every shattering hour;
Let me not forget that seeds
Are scattered from each flower.

Blown by wind and crushed by storms,
Seeds that lay their roots
Deep within the sheltering earth,
Sending up their shoots.

And these will bloom, as hopes do
bloom
Anew from each upset,
Grow from seeds of faith—Father
Let me not forget. —L. J. Stout



BANISH THE "BAND AID"

How often have you seen a small child persistently request a band aid? It matters not what the nature of the injury—a bumped head, a pinched finger—a band aid will “make it all better.”

Even as we smile at the simple way in which the child seeks to find a solution to his “problem,” we as adults all too often seek to right a wrong, large or small, with a cover-up—the adult version of a “band aid.”

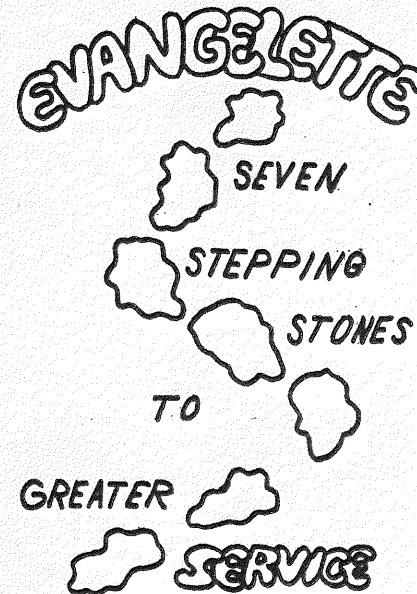
Perhaps a good piece of simple advice for those graduates who now stand at the doorstep of the adult world would be to throw away the “adult band aids” *before you begin*. Banish the cover-ups. Find more effective and lasting cures for your problems and ills.

At times we realize some ill-chosen words spoken by ourselves may have caused hurt or discomfort to someone else. Is it enough to ignore it, try to forget it, and “make up for it” with some *future* sugar-coated words? That is indeed as “*simple*” a philosophy as the child who wants a band aid for his headache. The only real cure you can hope for is to face the situation head-on with a direct apology—well chosen, humble words. The cover-up job only leaves the words to fester in the memory of the victim.

Then there is the occasion whereupon you are faced with something that you *just simply don't know*, but you wish you did. Why cover up? Don't hesitate to say, “I just don't know.” There doesn't exist a band aid large enough to completely cover your facade. You can hope for no more than a *partial* cover-up job. You look smarter admitting you don't know than attempting to bluff your way. People are not so easily fooled. The sooner you develop a candid, honest approach in your relationship with others, the more you will be genuinely respected. Not only that, you'll be more comfortable with yourself.

“To thine own self be true, and it must follow, as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man.”

“... Ye make clean the outside of the cup and of the platter, ... cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also” (Matthew 23:25, 26).



Charity -- Begin Where You Are!

by Sheryl Youngs

Living in dire circumstances and obviously far, far behind in housework once upon a time ago, “she” thankfully welcomed a crew of willing rescuers. For hours the battle raged, spiders surrendered their corners, flies were driven to less hostile territory (all traces of past existence erased), floors received foreign treatment—a scrub. All efforts pointed toward marvelous transformation; gratefulness was aroused in the heart of this housewife-in-distress. “Now,” dictated helper G. when the last broom rested, “see that you keep it this way. . . .”

Service to Others is more than spasmodic “acts of charity.” *Service to Others* calls for even more than *many works*; charity must be harmonized. On the other hand, “loving your neighbor” is more than just a mere sentiment of emotions—the shedding of tears. Feeling compassion, one must be moved to action. *Service to Others*, genuine charity is more than grand wishes and words—

“You're a wonderful person.”

“I love you.”

“I'm so sorry.”

“Somebody ought to do something.”

“God bless you. . . .”

“Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge. . . .”¹

Up to this time your efforts in *Evangelette* have been to improve yourself and to gain wisdom and knowledge for yourself. Now, these commendable achieve-

ments must not be in vain. You must launch out by putting your "Good Book" learning to use! "Who is a wise man and endowed with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation (way of living) his works with meekness of wisdom . . . but the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, FULL of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy."²

Sister one: Would you please go elsewhere to clip your nails? I'm trying to study.

Sister two: Why don't YOU? I'm not bothering you.

Sister one: Honestly can't you ever be considerate of anyone else?

Sister two: I have just as much right to be here as you do.

Ugh! Some people. Stomp, stomp, SLAM!!!

Charity begins right where you are—your sister, your brother, your mother, your father. Maybe he who antagonizes you the most is where you have a duty to begin *servicing others*. That little brother who so irritates you—give him the "hot coals" treatment—start by buying him a bag of peanuts. Shock your mother; next time she tells you to do something, be one of those ridiculous TV kids, say, "OK Mom" and do the dishes.

* * *

The walnut-wooden door thudded shut; thirty-three stares pivoted from their school papers. Trembling I froze and met them—tough, unsmiling. For the eleventh time I hated being the new girl. I hated room 23. The day remained routine agony—shuffling through strange halls, at lunchtime sitting silently to stuff while I knew those curious stares condemned the thick homemade bread, the beans between the slices, the crumbs that crumbled. Recesses I soberly surveyed gay play and wished for courage to join. Coming days did not change the situation much.

"If I were just pretty and friendly and had better shoes and a better dress . . .

If I could just be like the others . . .

Oh, I'd like a friend, too . . .

I cannot forget those miserable days of the past when my thoughts were so inverted; always I thought "ME inferior."

"ME afraid."

always I thought of what "ME deserves."

what "ME wants."

what "ME doesn't like."

The man Jesus erased the "ME firsts" from His life, gave example of supreme empathy, felt compassion, and reacted, supplied physical deficiencies, extended spiritual counsel and beckoned to all egotists, "Deny yourself—Follow me." Her home was cleaned—and then had come the offensive remark,

Spasmodic "acts of charity" on our part have been performed—and then we stomp down our sister—our brother. Others have given only pats on the hand,

when a shoulder was needed to lean upon. Greater Service, our goal-in-pursuit, is MEETING THE NEEDS OF OTHERS. We can accomplish this by:
Eradicating the "ME'S" in our living:

—Evaluating every thought, every action, as to where the "ME" fits in.

—Praying.

Branding each phrase of I Corinthians 13 into our minds.

—Charity suffereth long.

—Charity is kind.

—Charity vaunteth not itself.

—Charity seeketh not her own.

—CHARITY NEVER FAILETH.

Then—"Follow after charity."

"As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men especially unto them who are of the household of faith."³

"A blessed way of living," getting along with people, doing some long-suffering when they irritate, communicating kindness ("The tongue of the wise is health"⁴) bringing a smile, a laugh, a thank-you, weeping with the sorrowful, listening to the talkative—even to that poor, old lonely bore—listen! Let her tell you how she makes banana cake—how she outwitted last week's mouse.

And then wake up to find out that in forgetting you are no longer an introvert. No longer does it matter so much that your shoe has a sole off, that your bread crumbles at lunchtime and that the others aren't friendly. You're too busy *being* a true friend, a "good samaritan," "loving your neighbor," serving others.

"He that loveth his brother abideth in the light and there is none occasion of stumbling. . . ."⁵

¹I Cor. 13 ²James 3:13-17 ³Gal. 6:10 ⁴Proverbs 12:18 ⁵I John 2:10
Other supporting texts: Matthew 10:42; Matthew 25:34-45; Galatians 5:13-15; Galatians 6:2-9; II Peter 1:4-10; Acts 20:35.

MY FATHER

There is a picture in my study—a picture of a man who meant more to me than any other man. He gave me my name—he was my father.

I often hesitate, as I walk to my desk, to smile with him, for he always smiled. He was cheerful and happy. He overcame hardships, for he had a marvelous sense of humor. He whistled when tempted to anger. He sang at his work. He was my companion throughout my boyhood.

He knew truth, and lived it. He had faith, and practiced it. He was charitable, and gave of himself as well as of his purse. He was a Christian gentleman.

He was my friend, and understood. He was my father.

—Everett Wentworth Hill.

INTO EVERY NATION . . .

Germany

by John Lemley

The love of God has been flowing into every nation calling out to people everywhere. His love is sometimes manifested in ways which are hard to understand. So the Apostle Paul writes, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent?" (Romans 10: 14, 15).

Because of this need to hear in order to believe and find the way to an abundant life, pleas are continually pouring in from many countries. Pleas for more workers, more of our prayers, more of our concern. Numerous people all over the world daily cry out to God for someone to help them, lead them, interpret life's problems for them, and give them the formula for a full, meaningful life.

We join our new brethren throughout Germany by praising God for the

Top: First group in Munster

Second: First group in Hamburg.

Third: First group in Karlesrube.

Fourth: First group in Marburg.

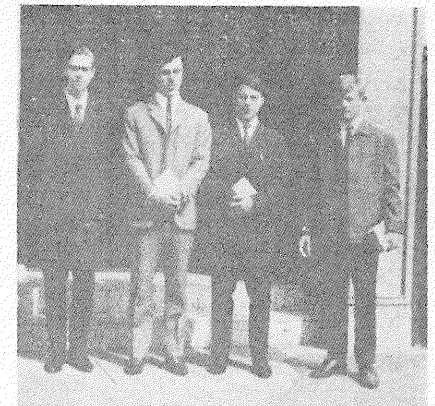
Right: Church in progress at headquarters church in Hanover, Germany.

opportunity they have had to hear this formula. And with our gratitude comes a promise to continually uphold them in prayer. Remember, the Church of God message is very unpopular with the government leaders. Only Lutheranism and Catholicism are recognized. These new ones in Christ direly need our prayers to "be steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord . . ." (1 Cor. 15:58).

The young people in Germany have certainly been performing their part in getting the Gospel message to their fellow-countrymen. During the fall and winter their pastor, Elder Helmut Strauss, was busily spreading the Word throughout Germany. New work was established in Hamburg, Munster, Marburg, and Karlesrube. During his absence Earnest Strauss, Richard and Heinz Rosniak, Emanuel Zwirkowski helped lead out in church services.

Their small size makes it hard for them to form an FYC and do things on their own; so they blend in with their local congregation in Hanover and assist wherever possible.

A letter from Elder Strauss pointed out some of their hopes and plans:



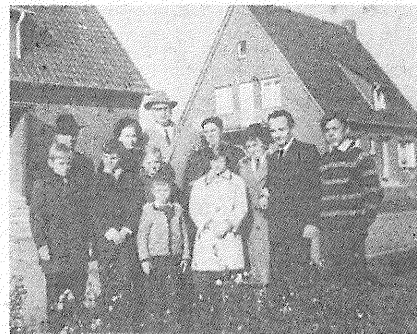
Hanover, Germany FYC. Left to right: Earnest Strauss, Richard and Heinz Rosniak, Emanuel Zwirkowski. Not shown: Ruth Zwirkowski and Horst Rosniak.

"We are still doing pioneer work here in Germany. For this I send you some pictures so you can see a little of our work. We had to start with the help of God right from the bottom. We visited people in their homes. We sent out literature and, step by step, moved ahead. Praise the Lord for this! Our next goal is to build a mission center. When we have this accomplished, we will be able to work like the Church of God in the U.S.A. is doing. After reaching this goal we will be able to do FYC work and spend more of our time helping organize the young people. So we hope and pray that with the help of God we will start this year with our building project. Please pray with us that the Lord may bless all we are doing to His glory and for His Church."

PRAYER REQUESTS

Sunday—Remember the new ones in Christ in Germany

Monday—Pray for Elder E. A. Straub as he is touring Poland,



England and Germany.

Tuesday—The FYCers in North-eastern India who are establishing a school to teach God's pure message to a pagan people.

Wednesday—All those in foreign lands who are taking the Searchlight Bible Correspondence Course.

Thursday—Frere Jean Francois Lubin of Mauritius Island who is searching for the truth.

Friday—Our brethren in Don Carlos, Philippines. Difficulties in mail delivery have kept us from hearing from them for some time.

Youth Doctrine Corner

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



THE SEVEN LAST PLAGUES

Official Church of God Doctrine—Article No. 36

. . . The wrath of God against sin and sinners reaches its fullness before and at the time of the second advent of Christ in the releasing of seven dreadful and devastating plagues (called "the seven last plagues") upon those "which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image." These plagues represent events in the world which cause great trouble and distress. It is a part of the message of the Church to warn the world against the suffering and disaster that comes as the result of sin.

Plagues Are the Outpouring of God's Wrath

- . . . Cup of God's wrath filled up (Rev. 15:1).
- . . . Against sinners—those who rebel against God (Isa. 26:21; Rev. 16:2).
- . . . God's people escape (Isa. 26:20, 21; Psalm 91:5-10; Rev. 15:2-4).

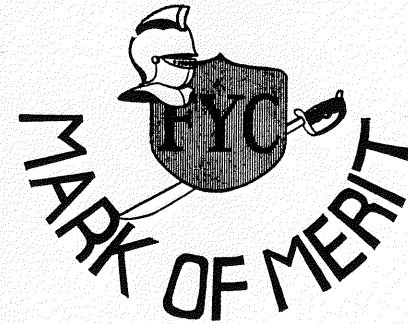
Plagues Are Future

- . . . Fullness of God's wrath (Rev. 15:1).
- . . . Come at closing of God's mercy (Rev. 15:8; Rev. 16:9).
- . . . Come near the time of resurrection (Rev. 26:20, 21).

Plagues Are Quite Literal

- . . . God's punishment and wrath—not figurative (Rev. 15:1; Rev. 16:1).
- . . . Wicked suffer severely (Rev. 16:9, 11).

Church To Warn Against Sin and Rebellion That Brings Plagues to Individuals



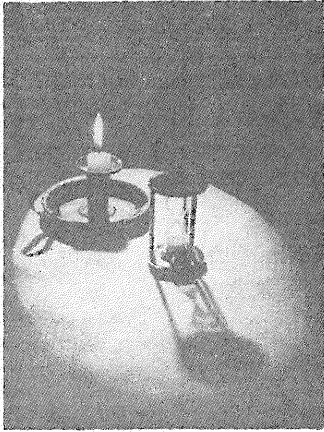
By Nathan Lawson

"We'll work till Jesus Comes." Often we sing these words. As the youth of the Church of God (Seventh Day) we have a great part in fulfilling the words of this song.

The Mark of Merit Program offers your FYC a guideline to this activity. We hope that your group is listed among the active participants of this program.

FYC	First Quarter Points	Bonus Points	National FYC Support	Foreign Project
Nampa, Ida.	205	333	\$ 1.50	\$6.00
Toledo, Ohio	205	207	2.00	6.00
Tahlequah, Okla.	205	160	1.26	1.50
Eureka, S. D.	205	156	6.94	
Marion, Iowa	205	541	5.00	6.00
New Auburn, Wisc.	205	150	12.55	6.00
Harrisburg, Ore.	205	285	8.25	6.00
St. Paul, Minn.	205	120	7.29	6.00
Stockton, Calif.	185	220	7.50	
Pandora, Tex.	85	20		
Oklahoma City, Okla.	150	85		
Denver, Colo.	155	135	27.00	6.00
Conroe, Tex.	190	25	3.65	1.50
Elmira, Ore.	185	100	4.16	
Southwest Mich.	190	170	8.38	
Ontario, Calif.	150	154	1.83	
Saginaw, Mich.	140	165	3.51	6.00
McAlester, Okla.	180	95	1.88	6.00
Alfred, N. Dak.	185	100	7.20	
St. Joseph, Mo.	130	25	13.94	
Bloomington, Calif.	130	110		
Kansas City, Mo.	185	201		
White Fox, Sask., Can.	180	49	7.25	6.00

(Continued on page 34)



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Take Time for God

by Martha Ling

HONOR

PRAYER FOR THIS MONTH: "Lord, help me to always give honor to all those who deserve honor: but especially to You."

June 15. Ephesians 6: Consider: We are to honor (or obey) our parents and our bosses, not just to please them, but instead, from our hearts (vs. 6).

June 16. Matthew 10. Consider: Our first honor or love should be to God.

June 17. Proverbs 23. Consider: Verse 22 tells us we should listen to the advice of our parents, and honor them even when they are old.

June 18. Psalm 103. Consider: God will help us if we fear (a type of honor) Him (verses 13, 14).

June 19. Exodus 20. Consider: We will keep the ten commandments if we honor God and our parents.

June 20. Proverbs 1. Consider: Since this is Father's Day, we should especially honor our fathers—but let's not forget him the rest of the year either.

June 21. Matthew 15. Consider: Have you made God's command to honor your parents of none effect?

June 22. Matthew 19. Consider: Christ often mentioned the commandment to honor our parents. Was it because we cannot truly honor Him if we do not honor them?

June 23. Mark 7. Consider: This commandment of honor to our parents is so important that those who cursed their parents under the old law had to die.

June 24. Mark 10. Consider: Just what do you think constitutes honor to our parents, and the relationship that holds with our honor to God?

June 25. Luke 18. Consider: Do you think there is any significance in the fact that in all the times Christ lists some of the commandments,

the one concerning honor to our parents is listed last—and yet in Exodus, it is the first of those concerning our fellowman?

June 26. Leviticus 19. Consider: We are to honor the older members of our community—they have had more experience than we.

June 27. 2 Samuel 2. Consider: Those that honor God shall be honored by Him.

June 28. Isaiah 29. Consider: Are we only honoring Christ from our lips?

June 29. Isaiah 43. Consider: Even God's lesser creations honor Him. How much more should we?

June 30. Isaiah 58. Consider: One way to honor God is to keep His Sabbath holy—from the heart.

July 1. Daniel 4. Consider: I hope it won't take as much to get us to honor God as it did for Nebuchadnezzar.

July 2. John 5. Consider: If we do not honor Christ, we do not honor the Father.

July 3. John 8. Consider: Even Christ honors the heavenly Father.

July 4. I Timothy 5. Consider. Widows are to be honored.

July 5. I Peter 2. Consider: We should honor all men, not just those in authority.

July 6. I Corinthians 12. Consider: We should honor (or care) for even the lowliest members of the church (verse 25).

July 7. I Chronicles 16. Consider: "Glory and honour are in His presence."

July 8. Esther 1. Consider: Even pagans realized that women were to honor their husbands, no matter

what the husband's position was.

July 9. Romans 13. Consider: "Render therefore to all their dues... honour to whom honour."

July 10. Malachi 1. Consider: "A son honoureth his Father, and a servant his master."

July 11. Proverbs 26. Consider: Are there certain people we should not honor? See verse 8.

July 12. Psalm 96. Consider: "Honour and majesty are before him."

July 13. Acts 28. Consider: We should honor our elders as the early church honored the apostles.

July 14. I Thessalonians 4. Consider: We should act in a way which will merit honor ourselves (verse 4).

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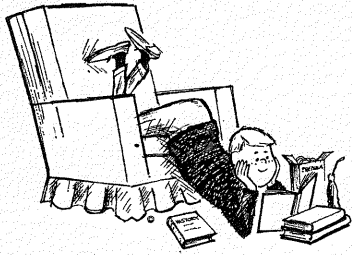
This month we are happy to welcome two new enrollees. Linda McNeal and Lucy Marrs have completed their first three months of 2T4G. Karen Michalak finished six months, while Kathleen Leach finished nine months. Marilyn Current, the assistant director, has started her fourth year by completing the first three months of it.

May God be with all of you 2T4Gers, and bless you as you read and communicate with Him.

DECISIONS FOR GRADUATES

(Continued from page 6)

The best total advice you could use at this point is to communicate daily with God, so that all your decisions, great and small, will be made with His guidance. I couldn't say it any better than a minister I heard recently—"HOLD HANDS WITH GOD!"



Book Review Corner

by Marilyn Current

TWELVE ANGELS FROM HELL

by David Wilkerson; Fleming H. Revell Company; 160 pp.
cloth, \$2.95; paperback, \$.75

Twelve Angels From Hell tells the story of the lives of some of the people mentioned in *The Cross and the Switchblade*. Also, some people not mentioned in that book are written about in this book. Whereas *The Cross and the Switchblade* is the story of Teen Challenge, its founder, its birth and struggle, *Twelve Angels From Hell* is the story of addicts, prostitutes, and so forth, who found their peace with God through the help of Teen Challenge.

David Wilkerson relates to us the miserableness of the lives of these twelve people before Christ transformed them, the point at which Teen Challenge entered their lives, their defiance and resistance to help, their conversions and struggles as new Christians. Then he tells us what each of them is doing now for God's work.

Sometimes we think we have a hard time as Christians. But it's nothing like what these young people have. We really don't know what we have to be thankful for. They have a constant struggle to remain free from drugs. Their old "friends" attempt to pull them back down into the gutter with them. Romans 7:14-25 is very real to these new Christians.

You'll find this book very inspiring. If, under such conditions, these twelve young men and women can live victorious Christian lives, we certainly ought to be able to.

CAN YOU READ AND WRITE IN SPANISH?

If you can write in Spanish, you are someone we need to help us in the correspondence with Spanish-speaking young people who would like to have American FYC pen-pals. Here is your chance to help in the worldwide FYC work.

If you are willing to help us, please write to AIM or to:
Daniel Davila, 1611-A N. Hayes, Springfield, Missouri 65803

District Youth Worker Appointed for District 6

District No. 6 joined two other districts in adopting the "District Worker Program" recommended by the Young People's Department. That district board has appointed Elder Vernon Patchen as District Worker, Elder Alfred Walter as his assistant, and it hopes to initiate a plan for state representatives to serve under the district workers.

We praise God for such vision and enthusiasm.

General Conference—Welcome Mat Out

The young people of southern California have put out the "welcome mat" for all FYCers around the world. They want you to join them at General Conference, August 6-14, on the La Verne, California, college campus.

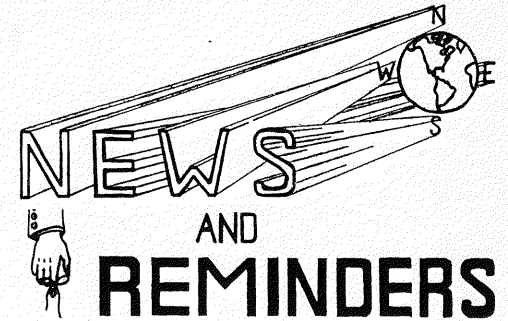
WILL YOU ACCEPT THEIR INVITATION?

An outstanding program is being planned and IT WILL BE A SHAME IF YOU MISS IT!

Attention! Youth Leaders and Pastors—Register ALL FYCers

We urge you to register all FYCers with the National FYC office, Stanberry, Missouri. If your FYC group has not registered its FYCers, you may obtain a registration blank from the Mark of Merit Director, Nathan Lawson, 841 S. Washington St., Lodi, California.

Register your FYC members even



if your FYC is not in the Mark of Merit Program. It is a must if they are to receive the materials and letters from the National FYC office. We will be looking for the registration of your FYCers.

Make Your Mark of Merit

You FYC groups who have started Mark of Merit are urged to keep your programs going strong. Use the Mark of Merit Program for avenues to growth in numbers and growth in spiritual blessings. You can help this to be the greatest year yet in Mark of Merit.

Faith Trio Album

You may order your long-play album by the "Faith Trio" from the National FYC. The cost per album is \$4.00.

FYC Stationery Going Fast

In just one month we have mailed out several hundred packages of stationery. Most have been of the type for sale to the general public. We recommend that if your FYC group plans to sell stationery as a money-making project, that you order soon. (This is not just a sales pitch either.)

The order should be sent to National FYC, Stanberry, Missouri 64489. FYC groups should sell the stationery for at least \$1.25 per package. It will cost an FYC group 75¢ per package. See the May issue of AIM for additional details.

National Youth Week Reports

Remember to send in your National Youth Week report forms. We are eager to receive them. Only then may

these reports appear in AIM Magazine to share your experiences with others.

National FYC Programs

Those of you who have enrolled in Evangelette, Minuteman, or 2T4G, keep up the good work. All these programs are beneficial and are receiving good participation now. We want them to be of great spiritual blessings to all of you FYCers.

MARK OF MERIT

(Continued from page 29)

San Antonio, Tex. (Sp.)	170	85	22.89	6.00
Fort Smith, Ark.	195	110	1.00	6.00
Central City, Neb.	80	60		
Austin, Tex.	195	35	6.56	1.50
Bronx, N. York	85	80	9.00	
Claremore, Okla.	150	60		

We have several new groups involved in Mark of Merit this year. It is a pleasure to welcome you to the program. If you enter into it with a desire to be an active part of the work of God's Church, I am sure that the program will help you and prove a great blessing to your local work. We hope you will continue with the program. Don't give up. Give your best. You will find that your group really needs Mark of Merit to be active.

THANKS!

Thanks for the fine support for the National FYC and the Foreign Project. Without your support, such a work would not be possible. Every local FYC should support the National FYC with 15% of their local income. Also, they should support the Foreign Project with \$6.00 a year.

2nd QUARTER REPORTS

Your Report Blank for the 2nd Quarter will arrive about the end of June. We hope that you will fill it out and mail it promptly. Do not delay or fail to send in this report. Report blanks for the 2nd quarter are mailed to youth groups that entered the Mark of Merit Program the first quarter.

Question: Why should I go to La Verne, California for Camp Meeting?

Answer: We can't give you all the answers. But we can give you a few reasons why we think you won't want to miss the program that is planned for you.

SOME OF THE FEATURES WILL BE:

Top-talented singing groups

Youth testimonies

- of special experiences with God
- overcoming drug problem
- healing
- miraculous release from military obligation
- others

Workshops

- Prophecy
- Modernism
- Church—past, present, future
- Others

FYC Representatives from foreign nations

- Leadership committeeman from England
- Delegation from Mexico
- Hopefully delegates from other areas
(not yet confirmed)

Tremendous Recreation Facilities on Campus

- Need we Say More??

General Conference and Camp Meeting

August 6-14, 1971

La Verne College

La Verne, California

WJ
July