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Aim

MAY 1974

The magazine for young people



*The best and noblest lives are those which
are set toward high ideals.*

—Almeron

Aim THE MAGAZINE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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Gail Rincker, Editor

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SUCCESS

If the day and the night are such that you greet them with joy, and life emits a fragrance like flowers and sweet-scented herbs, is more elastic, more starry, more immortal,—that is your success.

Henry David Thoreau

EDITORIAL ETCHES

It is graduation time again, and many of you FYCers along with thousands of other young people throughout the nation, are receiving a flood of graduation congratulations and gifts. Along with all of the "traditional" gifts for graduates comes God's great gift to you—THE GIFT OF TIME. Time to live and learn. Time to love and laugh and be happy. Time to plan and prepare for your future. Time to work and time to achieve. What a great and priceless gift is this gift of time for it is nothing else but the gift of Life itself.

Now, as you step out on new horizons, may you always desire more than you can accomplish, and may you truly and circumspectly "redeem the time"—your time, God's gift to you!

You wake up in the morning,
and lo!
your purse is magically filled
with twenty-four hours
of the unmanufactured tissue
of the universe of your life.

It is yours.
It is the most precious of possessions.
No one can take it from you.
It is unstealable.
And no one receives
either more or less
than you receive.

—Arnold Bennett

BRADEN ACRES
GRADE SCHOOL

A BLUEPRINT FOR LIVING

To stand tall in the sunlight.
To seek out the bright face of beauty.
To reach for the dream, the star.
To see the world through eyes of tenderness.
To love with openheartedness.
To speak the quiet word of comfort.
To look up to the mountain and not be afraid to climb.
To be aware of the needs of others.
To be in awe of the wonder of life.

...necessity of the human being.
...admission of the world.

...graduations 1974 Graduates
Reach high — Reach for

Within Ourselves



Our Future Lies

by Jessie Truman

This is the time of year when young people go forth to pursue their chosen vocations, jobs, new ways of life. It is a time of weddings and building new homes. And each day is a new beginning for each of us. We wonder what the future holds and try to picture it as we make our plans.

It is true that only God knows exactly what lies ahead. But He has given us guideposts, prophecies and promises so that we need not walk blindly nor in total darkness. He has given us the right to choose in many things. We are not puppets in His hands, though He can and will take control of our

lives if we choose. Remember Israel? How many times did they wander away from Him? And each time when they sought Him, He said "If ye walk in My way and keep my statutes, then I will be your God and ye shall be my people."

FIRST WE CHOOSE

So then we see that first we choose. Our decision comes from within ourselves. And that decision has a direct bearing on where our future lies.

To choose the Christian way involves many aspects, one of which is obedience. Abraham did not falter in his obedience to God and was ready to offer his son as a sacrifice. From this act of obedience came the great promise of reward—"And in thy seed shall all nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice" (Gen. 22:18). Jesus was the "seed" by whom all nations are blessed and He "humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."

We all desire some measure of success in our lives, but we may not agree on the definition of success. Webster calls it a favorable termination of anything attempted.

A few years ago our family visited in the city of Denver, Colorado, and spent some time at the museum there. We saw great and terrible pre-historic animals that had lived in our land. From all appearances they should be classed as success for surely they dominated in their time, feeding on les-

ser animals and crushing all forms of life under their great weight. We also saw the humble rabbit. This little animal has been preyed upon by animals and man for centuries. He has been nearly wiped out by disease and yet I ask you to consider: which is the success? The mighty dinosaur or the lowly rabbit? Which do we have with us today?

It is so with men. I'm sure you can name any number of men who are recorded as great in their day. Was it not Alexander the Great who wept when there was no more world to conquer? Compare him with the lowly Babe Who was born in a manger, lived a life of service to others and died the death of shame on a cross. Which of these was a success? Which one still influences the lives of men and women? Can we not know that a life of service to others can be the successful life, the rewarding life?

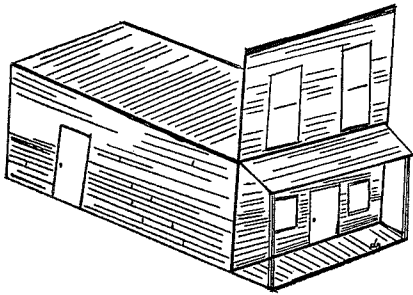
GOD'S ON OUR SIDE

Did you ever consider that God wants us to succeed? "...If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31). Listen to some of His promises. "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou
(Continued on page 17)



Sister Jessie Truman, originally from the state of Washington, now lives in Owosso, Michigan, where she serves as cook for Spring Vale Academy.

The Biography of An Old Building



by Cecyl Fischer

It was just a little, shabby, old cement block building standing on a busy intersection. In the window was a real estate sign. We had passed the building countless times before, but somehow this time it caught my attention. On the side of the building, up near the eaves hung a mishmash of signs, some partly covered, some broken off. What they revealed was like an autobiography, the open diary of a tired old building. The signs told that the building had at one time been a filling station, at another time had been a hamburger "palace," and at some time in the past it had harbored an ice company.

The light at the intersection turned yellow, then red, and we slowed to a halt. I sat there looking at the little old building... and thinking. When the light turned green a few moments later

and we eased through the intersection, the little building had spoken many sermons to me.

The first sermon it taught me was that I am limited only by myself. Too often we construct in our mind an image of ourself; sometimes the image is too small, sometimes it is too great.

Suppose, for instance, the little building had featured itself as an elegant hotel. Suppose it had protested, "No, I won't be a filling station! There are plenty of others who can do that. Why should I be wasted on such a lowly service? I am hotel material." It's obvious that no matter how long he waited and hoped, no enterprising business man would ever come along and hang a hotel sign over the door of the likes of him... a one or two room concrete building.

On the other hand, suppose the building had maintained, "No, I'm

not good enough to be a hamburger house. Why, see, I haven't even a stove or a refrigerator. I have barely enough room for a counter. I can't, I just can't!"

But the little building didn't protest. It simply yielded itself to a master hand who could see its possibilities and its limitations. It said, "Do what you will with me; you are wiser than I." Thus the building was never idle or useless. It had brought forth many kinds of fruit.

Each of us is a building, ready to be used for something... a vessel ready to be filled. Unlike the little building I described, we have the opportunity to choose for ourselves who will be our master. "If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work" (I Tim. 2:21).

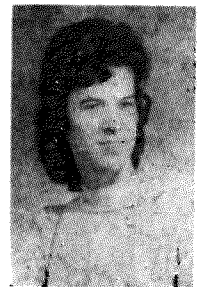
Another sermon the little building taught was about "time." It reminded me that time is an empty building and I am the proprietor. Each hour is a piece of real estate waiting to have a sign nailed over its door. What that sign says is up to me. I decide whether that hour will be used for good or evil or whether it will be utterly wasted.

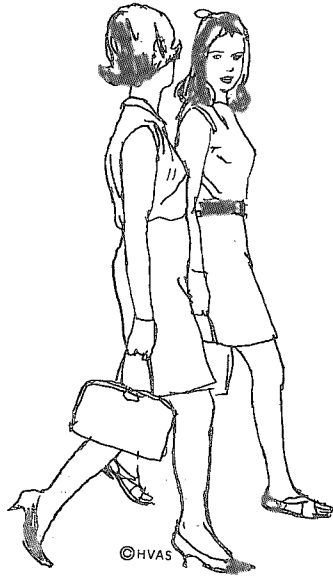
During the New Year's season I noticed a sign outside a store which read, "Twelve Months of Opportunity." Perhaps each of us should put a sign over our breakfast table reading, "Sixteen Hours of Opportunity." God will indeed hold us accountable for the time and the opportunities we are given.

And last, the little building reminded me of a time to come when my past life will be spread out before me and before God and all the world. What kind of story will it tell? Among the confusion of signs hanging under those eaves, not one suggested something dishonest or illegal or indecent—a filling station, an ice company and a hamburger palace, all honest and decent businesses. Not a suggestion of a tavern or a gambling house or anything of disrepute. Oh, that my record would be so clean when it is unfolded on the judgment day! But more than clean, might it be found full of good works. Might it show that I have judged wisely, that I have yielded to God as my Master, have used my time to His Glory and have brought forth fruits unto the eternal.

It was such a pitiful, ugly, little old building, but what a lot it had to say!

Cecyl Fischer, who resides in Owosso, Michigan, where her husband is a teacher at Spring Vale Academy, has devoted much of her life to young people and to various programs of both local F.Y.C.s and the National F.Y.C.





by Mary Holbert

T H E E X P E R I M E N T

"What's that?" Debbie asked, pointing to the colorful pin on Jan's collar. Jan, a tall, slender girl with long, sunny-brown hair flashed a smile and answered, "It's a smile button! Can't you tell?"

Debbie, a petite girl with shining waves of honey-gold hair framing her face, examined the pin more closely. She, too, smiled. Then looking from Jan to the pin and back to Jan, Debbie burst out into delightful laughter.

"Do you like us? The smile button and me?" asked Jan as the two girls strolled leisurely down the tree-lined street on their way home from church service.

"Yes! Yes, I do!" exclaimed Debbie, still gurgling with delight. Debbie studied the bits of wire and rubber bands covering Jan's teeth. Then she looked at the smile button which also sported bits of wire and bands on its teeth. "Yeah, you both wear braces now! That is really clever!" Debbie laughed.

"What a good sensible way to accept braces on one's teeth," thought Debbie, whose straight white teeth would never need them. "I probably wouldn't want to smile at all if I had to have all that hardware on my teeth."

"I'm glad you aren't afraid to smile," murmured Debbie to Jan before she thought how her words might sound. But she didn't need to worry. Jan just smiled at her again and replied, "Debbie, surely you haven't forgotten what we are doing as an F.Y.C. project!"

At first Debbie couldn't connect the smile button with F.Y.C., then a light gleamed in her dark brown

eyes. "The experiment! You know, I'd almost forgotten about that! But now I remember."

Jan laughed, "Well, of all the people I know, Debbie, you come the closest to having been in this experiment all your life."

"Thanks," answered Debbie seriously. "Jan, it is odd that you should say that. I learned a long time ago from my grandmother that joy is not merely a privilege a Christian may possess. It is a duty. Our Christian life should always be joyous. We owe it to the world to live a life of victorious joy. Then others will want to learn about the source of our joy which, of course, is Christ."

"Go on," urged Jan. "I do want to hear about it." Jan knew that Debbie's life had had dark shadows of unhappiness in it—loss of loved ones—many other shadows and discouragements. "Me, on the other hand—well, about the worse I've had is my braces," thought Jan, not liking herself very much. "Yes, when I've been disappointed over little things I've sulked like a spoiled child who doesn't get his own way," and she grimaced at the thought. "No wonder I've had to work so hard at the experiment."

"Experiment!" mused Jan, "Well, I hope it becomes a way of life with me as it seems to be with Debbie. It sounded easy: Start out each morning with a glad heart and a cheerful face. Speak an encouraging word. Smile and speak a cheery word to a person and start a chain reaction—your smile will bring a smile to that person and the next one he meets will

receive the reflection of the smile you sent out."

Jan forced her thoughts back to what Debbie was saying. "I used to be so awkward and bashful—a regular wall-flower, to use my grandmother's word, but I changed. I found out it is true that everybody is lonesome. I have been trying to make other people feel at home. I know joy is the inheritance of every Christian. Happiness, if used properly, can help and inspire others to know Christ."

"I agree," answered Jan, and continued with a smile, "'A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.' I can't remember where that's found in the Bible; do you, Debbie?"

"No, to be honest I don't," replied Debbie, as they neared Jan's home.

"Debbie, please come in and have lunch with me. Then let's do a study on our experiment—projecting joy and happiness by having it ourselves. I know I need to be encouraged, so come on—you're the one who can help me!"

Debbie was free to spend the time with her friend, and soon they had settled down in comfortable chairs in Jan's pleasant, airy bedroom. "We could," suggested Debbie, "entitle our study, 'Be A Sunny Christian.' How's that? Oh, that verse you quoted—it is in Proverbs 17:22. Here's another verse in Proverbs 15:13, 'A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance...'"

"Good, and I know a verse to show Christ wants us to be filled with joy," exclaimed Jan, as she

turned the pages of her Bible rapidly. "Here it is! 'These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.' (John 15:11)."

"Christ, our joy," nodded Debbie, "Christ gives us joy. The joy that comes bubbling up from within us. Many people think this joy comes from making money, gaining wealth and position, or fame. All that, without Christ, is not the joy we want. Remember our study of Napoleon. He was called 'un-amusable' at the height of his position."

"I remember," echoed Jan with a wide grin showing the braces on her teeth. "I was thinking closer home. Remember the awful literature that clique at school passed around; and the parties they were bragging about? It sounded like happy times, but did you notice that their gaiety was short-lived? It ended when they had to go to the office, and their parents were called. The kind of joy they thought they had is the kind that leaves the mind blackened and reputations smirched."

"We need to ask God to help us avoid such joy, if you can call it that; and live the joy that is of Christ; live it so it becomes habit."

Mary McMicken Holbert has been active in writing for our church publications since childhood when she wrote letters to the children's paper. Mary, who enjoyed a career as a high school math teacher, and her husband, George, an elementary school principal, have recently retired from the teaching profession and now reside in Parkersburg, West Virginia.



If we claim to be Christians then we should scatter this joy of Christ."

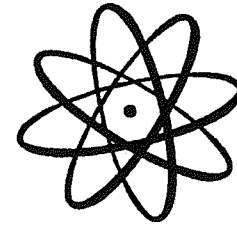
"Scatterers of light, not darkness, of good, not evil," agreed Jan thoughtfully. "We really have no right to make life harder for others. You know, one discouraging word from us could cause an already discouraged person to sink down under his burden. It is a serious responsibility when you stop to think about it. The rest of that verse in Proverbs 15:13 is true, 'But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.' I, for one, am glad we decided on this experiment. I hope I can get in the habit of being a joyful Christian."

"Not just surface happiness," Debbie insisted enthusiastically, "But the deep bubbling kind which comes from God! The kind Peter describes as 'joy unspeakable and full of glory' in I Peter 1:8."

"And Jan," warned Debbie, "this doesn't mean we shall never have sorrow or depression."

"I know, I know!" agreed Jan, and pointed to her smile button. Debbie knew about Jan's discomfort from the braces and her self-conscious avoidance of smiling up until now. "Yes," thought Debbie, "this experiment has been good for
(Continued on page 19)

Pass on the Praise



You're a great little wife, and I don't know what I would do without you." And as he spoke he put his arms about her and kissed her, and she forgot all the care in that moment. And, forgetting it all, she sang as she washed the dishes and sang as she made the beds. The song was heard next door. So two homes were happier because he had told her that sweet old story—the story of the love of a husband for a wife. As she sang, the butcher boy who called for the order heard it and went whistling on his journey, and the world heard the whistle, and one man hearing it, thought, "Here is a lad who loves his work, a lad happy and contented."

Because she sang, her heart was mellowed and as she swept about the back door the cool air kissed her on each cheek, and she thought of a poor old woman she knew, and a little basket went over to that home with a quarter for a crate or two of wood.

So, because he kissed her and praised her, the song came and the influence went out and out.

Pass on the praise.

A word and you make a rift in the cloud, a smile and you may create a new resolve, a grasp of the hand and you may repossess a soul from danger. Pass on the praise.

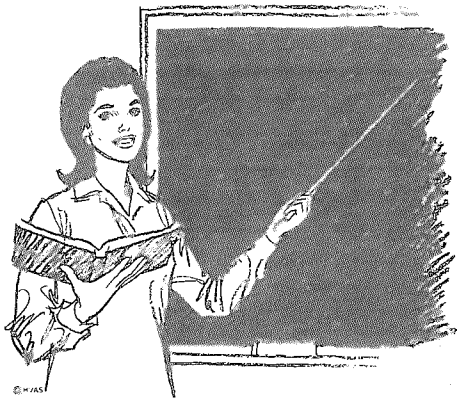
Does your clerk do well? Pass on the praise. Tell him that you are pleased, and if he is a good clerk he will appreciate it more than a raise. A good clerk does not work for salary alone.

Teacher, if the child is good, tell him about it; if he does better, tell him again. Thus you see good, better and best.

Pass on the praise now. Pass it on in the home. Don't go to the grave and call "Mother." Don't plead, "Hear me, Mother; you were a kind mother; you were a good mother, and smoothed away the rugged path for me." Those ears cannot hear that glad admission. Those eyes cannot see the light of earnestness in yours. Those hands may not return the embrace you now wish to give.

Why call so late? Pass on the praise today.

—Sunshine



See Blank Pages

by Marty Furman

PLEASURE AND SORROW

I walked a mile with Pleasure
She chattered all the way,
But left me none the wiser
For all she had to say.

I walked a mile with Sorrow
And n'er a word said she
But oh the things I learned from her
When Sorrow walked with me.

Robert Browning Hamilton

Sorrow — there is a purpose for it in a Christian's life. But the reality of sorrow has a painful sting.

As I look at the members of my youth class each Sabbath I see blank pages. Pages waiting to be filled with the acts of life. I fear for them, my precious young people. I'm afraid they don't realize there is no easy erasing on the pages of life. In our push-button world, there is no push-button forgiveness for a hasty word, a careless act, a passing pleasure. Experience is a hard teacher, and youth a vulnerable pupil.

"For whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Gal. 6:7). I know, too well, how true this is. I thought God didn't care and so I set out to destroy myself. I almost succeeded, but somehow through His limitless love, God found me. Found me when I had lost all hope, all

pride, all my strength. Found me when I wanted to die. With gentleness and forgiveness He restored life to me. The peace and assurance that filled my soul dwarfed every other experience in my life. And yet, even the happiness that is now ever in my heart cannot undo the harm I did before He found me. Opportunities lost can never be recaptured. The bitterness of regret cannot erase the pages of life. In God we find forgiveness, hope and strength for today and for tomorrow, but yesterday cannot be relived.

And so, my youthful friends, be careful. Live today reverently and joyously, for tomorrow it will be forever gone—it will become another yesterday added to your book of life. Live today fully for it may be the last page of your book. Live, so that at the end of each day you can honestly say to your Creator, "With my whole heart, have I sought Thee . . ." (Psalm 119:10).



Marty Furman, an R.N. employed in the field of nursing, lives in Walla Walla, Washington, where she serves as the Walla Walla FYC Leader and teacher of the youth class. Marty is a new and enthusiastic young member of the church.

Calling All F.Y.C.
Leaders
to Leadership Retreat
June 28-July 1
North Platte, Nebraska
We Want to See You There!



Unnecessary Loss

HE AGED . . .



discovering the lie(s) his parents told him (the tooth fairy, the stork, and others). *Exodus 20:16, Ephesians 6:4*

with the sporadic discipline that blended his black and whites into a grey of nothing-much. *Proverbs 13:24*

from years of silenced, stifled "whys?" *I Peter 3:15* while on-going adults, went-on, unknowing, unseeing, untroubling. *Matthew 25:40*

HE AGED . . .



when a young Christian girl was cruel. *Proverbs 27:6* as "slamming" was the accepted FYCers greeting and standard farewell. *Proverbs 25:11*

through rejection of his services (what WAS so significant about his hair reaching a little over his ears?) *Matthew 7:1*

HE AGED . . .



the time he was called "sinner" by an elder who felt strongly concerning cards, pool and bowling. *Proverbs 18:19*

to see (in his maturing outlook) that more than a few of the ministers' feet were not so beautiful after all. *Romans 10:15*

as he stood, surprised, stunned, shocked at the undeserved and angry accusations of another on the church roster. *Matthew 5:22*

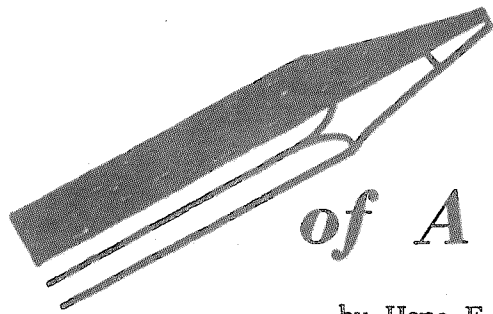
while the congregation was overly-nice to the visiting black family, although somewhat reluctant with their hand shakes. *Romans 2:11*

at the service where he felt God's pull, but was "saved" by an overheard comment on emotionalism. *Romans 14:21*

YES, HE AGED . . .

AND ONE DAY . . .

HE DIED.



The Mark of A Christian

by Hope E. Dais

Just HOW should we as Christians differ from those around us who are not endeavoring to live a Christ-led life? Can others identify us as Christians simply by our appearance—by our mode of dress? Certainly not. Though we may hold to conservative standards concerning extremes in clothing styles and personal grooming, by and large we appear as others around us. It is not our purpose or practice to try to look peculiar to identify ourselves as Christians—this is NOT the mark of a Christian.

In Genie Price's writings I once read, "There is no flurry about the saints deep in God. No skidding tires, no jerking of telephone hooks, no slamming of doors." Here, I feel, lies the difference with those whose life is hid in Christ—in our everyday actions and reactions.

Young person as a student, is there a difference in the sort of remark you would be heard to make concerning your teacher and the sort of disrespectful remark that may often be heard by many students?

Young parent, is there a difference in the reaction you show when your child is criticized or slighted, and that shown by a parent not professing a genuine Christian life?

We cannot witness to others of Christ in our life simply by certain standards of do's and don'ts, simply by attending church very faithfully, or even by explaining our noble and divine goals to those around us. It must be apparent in every small detail in our lives.

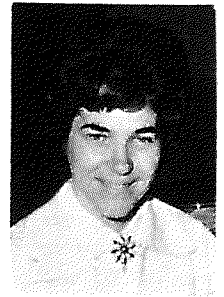
While speaking words to others about Christ is important, it will be meaningless and ineffective if the words we are heard to speak in casual living do not show that we have something real inside. Our spontaneous reaction to the words and actions of others—this is important. Our words heard over the backyard fence when with our own family—this is important. *Christ in us* must be evident every moment of our lives.

We must be humble and gracious when corrected or criticized. At times we must be willing to be right about some insignificant matter without pointing it out if others don't recognize it. We must

be immune to a luxury in which too many indulge—that of taking offense.

When we go to church and sing, "Make Me More Like Thee, Jesus" we need to be willing to live the humble, understanding, giving loving, uncondemning life that Christ lived—in our daily moment-by-moment living.

Hope Dais, who served as AIM editor for 8½ years, has been involved in many phases of the National FYC work. Hope lives in Denver, Colorado, with her husband, who is manager of the Bible Advocate Press, and with her four children.



WITHIN OURSELVES OUR FUTURE LIES

(Continued from page 5)

dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass" (Psalm 37:4-5). Paul said "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" and "... my God shall supply all your need ..." (Phil. 4:13, 19).

Although God has promised to supply our needs He gives us something to do, too. Notice in the quotation from Psalm 37 that we must trust, delight in the Lord and commit our ways to Him. He also expects us to act for He has said that faith without works is dead. We must put forth our best efforts if we want good results. Remember the parable of the ten talents in Matthew 25. This Scripture in 2

Corinthians 9:6 sums it up nicely. "... He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."

WITHIN YOU

Oh yes, within ourselves our future lies? For within each of us is a heart, and when Christ dwells in our heart our life becomes rich with meaning. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" (1 Cor. 3:16).

Would God allow His temple to fail? I think not. "... There hath not failed one word of all his good promise" (1 Kings 8:56). It is true in this life, and it will be true when we stand before Him to be judged whether our lives have been successful or not. Have you determined in your heart where your future lies? God will not let you fail if you meet His conditions.

The Parable of A Missing Friend



by L. L. Christenson

And it came to pass after many days John returned home. As his custom was he went to worship God on the day called Sabbath. After services he lifted up his eyes in search of his friend Benjamin. Lo, and behold, John did not see him, and sadness filled his heart. As he journeyed homeward with his mother,

John said: "Mother, have you seen Benjamin since Nisan 14?"

Mother: "No, son, it pains me to say he has not worshiped with us for many weeks. He has forsaken many days of assembly."

John was silent for a long time. Reaching home he went down by the riverside where prayer was wont to be made by him oft times. There, alone with God, John poured out his heart heavenward for Benjamin. And early the first day of the week he phoned his friend.

Benjamin answered: "Hello. What! Is this really you, John? When did you arrive home? Come on over. Let's go fishing!"

John relayed some details of his journey and then said: "You know my Sabbath custom. I was at worship services yesterday, and your absence made my heart sad."

Benjamin: "Well, pal, I guess I should have been there. But it's

so hard to arouse myself, get around and get ready. "And..."

John: Don't you arouse yourself, get around and get to work almost every week day? Our day of worship comes only once each week. Do you think we should sell the chapel?"

Benjamin: "Sell the chapel?! What talk is that? John, 'Let thy words be few and well chosen.'"

John: "Verily, I wanted you to express yourself. Since you do not favor selling the chapel, why do you visit it only rarely? Would you like it better if we had services only once each six weeks or so?"

Benjamin: Now, John, I haven't given up the faith. Remember, I was baptized. I usually take the Lord's Supper. I read my Bible more than most people, and I have helped support the Church. I believe in the Ten Commandments. I'm doing my share. What more do you want?"

John: "I am glad for the things you're doing, Ben. But that's not all God expects of His people. You've read about the seven churches in Revelation 2 & 3. God commended those brethren for various things, yet He was not satisfied."

Benjamin: "I have ears with which to hear. Speak on, thy friend heareth."

John: "Thank you, Ben, for I have somewhat more to say. The apostle Paul commanded something many of the brethren apparently have forgotten. I just don't understand how they can overlook this command."

Benjamin: "My heart troubles me to know what you mean. Say on."

John: "God bless you for your interest. Paul said, 'The things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.' Here is the commandment of the Lord I am talking about, Ben. **NOT FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING OF OURSELVES TOGETHER, AS THE MANNER OF SOME IS; ...** Some have virtually forsaken assembling together, but we are not to follow their example. This is a command from the Lord. Jesus set an example (Luke 4:16). Paul went to church Sabbath after Sabbath (Acts 17:2, 18:4). Shall we follow Christ and Paul and Hebrews 10:25? Now, Ben, if you lived a hundred miles away I wouldn't expect you to come to church every Sabbath. If you had no car and no way to come I would understand. David, a man after God's own heart said, 'I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.'

Ben, you've really been missing something by missing church."

Benjamin: "You have made it clear to me John. I do appreciate your deep interest in me. Let me invite you over to my house so we can study and pray together. I do not want my love for God, His church and the brethren to wax cold, and I do not want to disobey any of God's commands. Thank you for phoning me."

John: "I'll be right over after breaking bread."

"I will praise the Lord with my whole heart in the assembly of the upright, and in the congregation."

About The Author:

Elder L. L. Christenson is currently the pastor of the Three Rivers, Texas, church. Elder Christenson's face is a familiar one to young people at youth camps and camp meetings where he makes an appearance each summer!

THE EXPERIMENT

(Continued from page 10)

Jan. And for me too! Makes me more determined to be a joyful Christian. Then maybe others will want to commit their lives to God and discover the secret of true joy."

Suddenly Jan looked up from the scribbling she had been doing. "Debbie, how's this for a RECIPE"

(Continued on page 21)

Dear FYCer,

The present school year has nearly ended and summer is rapidly approaching. For some time now we have been announcing a National Leadership Retreat for this summer, June 28-July 1 at Maranatha Bible Camp, North Platte, Nebraska. We have also been encouraging you to make plans to attend. Now we would like to share some of the workshop topics with you.

The Friday evening session will be a communications workshop. This workshop will be designed to stimulate greater participation in the remaining sessions.

Another session will involve discussion of the existing personal growth programs—Minuteman, 2T4G, Evangelette and Mark of Merit. Top on our list of priorities is a revamping of these present programs to better meet your needs. You will have an opportunity to share in the planning of proposed changes in these programs. Your ideas are most important. This is why it is necessary for every F.Y.C. Leader to attend.

Other sessions will be devoted to the United Missions Board—its goals and programs; Leadership Training; AIM; the F.Y.C. and Its Outreach Program; How to be Effective Sponsors; The Church and Its Music Program; Constitutional Revisions for the National F.Y.C. There will be a time for spiritual sharing and a special "creative brainstorming" session. I am excited about the retreat and know it WILL build enthusiasm in each local F.Y.C.

When making your plans for the summer, consider the VISTOC program. The Church needs all available young people, 18 years of age and older, to devote time in active service. Write to the National F.Y.C. office for more information about VISTOC. Do something important! Be involved in your Church and its programs.

The first quarter of 1974 is now past. Have you sent in your Mark of Merit reports? This is a tremendous opportunity for your local groups to grow spiritually. Your participation and support make the F.Y.C. a greater force in the total ministry of the Church. Be faithful in your service to God!

Sincerely,

Ken Knoll

MINUTEMAN

Our Profession

1 John 3:16
Revelation 3:20
John 14:6
Ephesians 6:2
Philippians 4:13
2 Timothy 4:2
James 1:4
1 John 4:4

Within the last month many of you have graduated from high school, college, or junior high. You have learned many things, some of which will be very vital to you in the profession you choose or have chosen and some of which you will tuck away in a far corner of your memory to be used only seldom, if ever. Educators of today are trying to give the student a well-rounded education. They want him to know a little about everything and a lot about his major field. The occupation which you choose determines which bits of knowledge will be most important to you.

One man, when asked what his profession was, answered, "My profession is Christianity: I make shoes to earn my bread." Whatever occupation we choose your profession and mine is Christianity. The verses and doctrines we have been studying are profoundly important to our profession. Our knowledge of the subjects involved will determine to a great extent the quality of our service just as the engineer's knowledge of math and physics will determine the quality and accuracy of his construction.

Are we willing to do less than our best? Will God be satisfied with less than our best? We are admonished to know the scriptures, for these are the precepts and the promises that will guide us along the narrow way.

THE EXPERIMENT

(Continued from page 19)

FOR A SUNNY CHRISTIAN:

1 cup filled to overflowing with joy
1 cup of enthusiasm and commitment to God
1/2 cup good works and encouraging words

2 tablespoons contentment
1 pinch of happiness in the heart
1 pinch of zeal
Serve with a warm sauce of happy smiles.
"Even smiles with braces! Right, Jan!" said Debbie gently.
"Right," confirmed Jan smiling a wide smile that revealed her network of braces.

We Shall See God

Last month our daily readings enlightened us on the form and features of God. Included in this month's daily readings are facts about the character (or attributes) of God, and also on how the "glory of God" appeared in different forms to people at certain times.

Although no man has yet seen God, *all* born-again Christians have the wonderful promise that they will look upon the face of God in His Kingdom. What an exciting thing to look forward to!

Read the following chapters paying particular attention to the verses listed.

| READ YOUR BIBLE AND PRAY EVERY DAY. | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| SUN. | MON. | TUES. | WED. | THURS. | FRI. | SAB. |
| JUNE, 1974 | | | | | | 1 Ex. 33:11, 20 |
| 2 Num. 12:8 | 3 Deut. 34:10 | 4 II Cor. 3:7-18 | 5 Ezek. 10: 1-4, 18, 19 | 6 Ezek. 3:23 | 7 Ezek. 11: 22, 23 | 8 Lev. 16:2 |
| 9 Kings 8: 10, 11 | 10 2 Chron. 5:13, 14 | 11 2 Chron. 7:1-3 | 12 Judges 13:3-22 | 13 Gen. 22: 24-30 | 14 Judges 6:21, 22 | 15 Joshua 5:13-15 |
| 16 Ex. 13: 21, 22 | 17 Ex. 14:19, 20 | 18 Ex. 23:20-23 | 19 Ex. 32:34 | 20 Ex. 40:34-38 | 21 Num. 9:15-23 | 22 Num. 20:16 |
| 23 Acts 7:30-33 Ps. 86:15 | 24 Ps. 17:15 | 25 Matt. 5:8 | 26 I Cor. 13:12 | 27 I John 3:2 | 28 Rev. 22:3, 4 | 29 Ps. 103:8 |

Get Ready . . .

Get Set . . .

Go . . . To Youth Camp!

MARANATHA BIBLE CAMP (Nebraska)

July 2-6, 1974

Camp is located just east of North Platte, Nebraska. Sponsored by Central District. For further information contact Paul Linville, Camp Director, 1156 N. St. Francis, Wichita, Kansas 67214.

CEDAR LAKE OUTDOOR CENTER (Michigan)

June 23-30, 1974

Camp is located in the Waterloo Recreation Area, northwest of Chelsea, Michigan. Write Elder Vernon Patchen, Route 5, Owosso, Michigan 48867, for further information.

SUTTLE LAKE (Oregon)

June 23-30, 1974

Camp is located approximately 25 miles west of Sisters, Oregon, on Route 126. Write Duane Tilley, Camp Director, 595 Blackfoot, Eugene, Oregon 97402, for additional information.

LAKE TEXOMA STATE PARK (Oklahoma)

June 23-29, 1974

Camp is located between Ardmore and Durant, Oklahoma, and is sponsored by the Southwestern District. For more information write Elder Kenneth Knoll, P. O. Box 325, Fairview, Oklahoma 73737.

ADDRESS CHANGE?

Has your address changed recently? Or will it change within the next eight weeks? If you have an address change, please fill in the lines on the right, then cut off the lower portion of this cover, making sure that you include the old address label on the back side, and mail it to: Bible Advocate Press, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, Colorado 80201.

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