

Aim

The magazine for young people

Which Way Are You Traveling . . . to WINTER RETREAT???

SOUTHEAST . . . November 26 through 28 to

ALABAMA YOUTH RETREAT

Comer Scout Reservation, Mentone, Alabama

Ages: 13-25

Cost: \$6.00 per person

Contact: Elder Melvin Sweet, Route 1, Box 9-B, Ft. Payne, Alabama 35967

(If necessary to phone, call 945-0095 before Thursday evening.)

NORTHEAST . . . December 3 through 8 to

MICHIGAN YOUTH RETREAT

Mill Lake Outdoor Center, Chelsea, Michigan

Ages: high school freshmen through age 19 Cost: \$6.00 per person

Contact: Elder Vernon Patchen, 3205 Bennington Rd., Owosso, Mich. 48867

WEST . . . December 23 through 27 to

CALIFORNIA WINTER YOUTH RETREAT

The Silver Spur Camp, Sonora, California

Ages: 13 - 25

Cost: \$15.00 (due upon arrival at camp)

Contact: Harvey D. Fischer, 4110 Stillmeadow Way, Sacramento, Calif. 95821

SOUTH . . . December 28 through 31 to

TEXAS YOUTH RETREAT

Robinwood Girl Scout Camp (12 miles north of Conroe, Texas)

Ages: 13-25

Cost: \$6.00 total (\$3.00 registration)

Contact: Kenneth Knoll, Rt. 3, Box 441, Conroe, Texas 77301

A "FIRST" for young adults . . . December 11 through 13 to

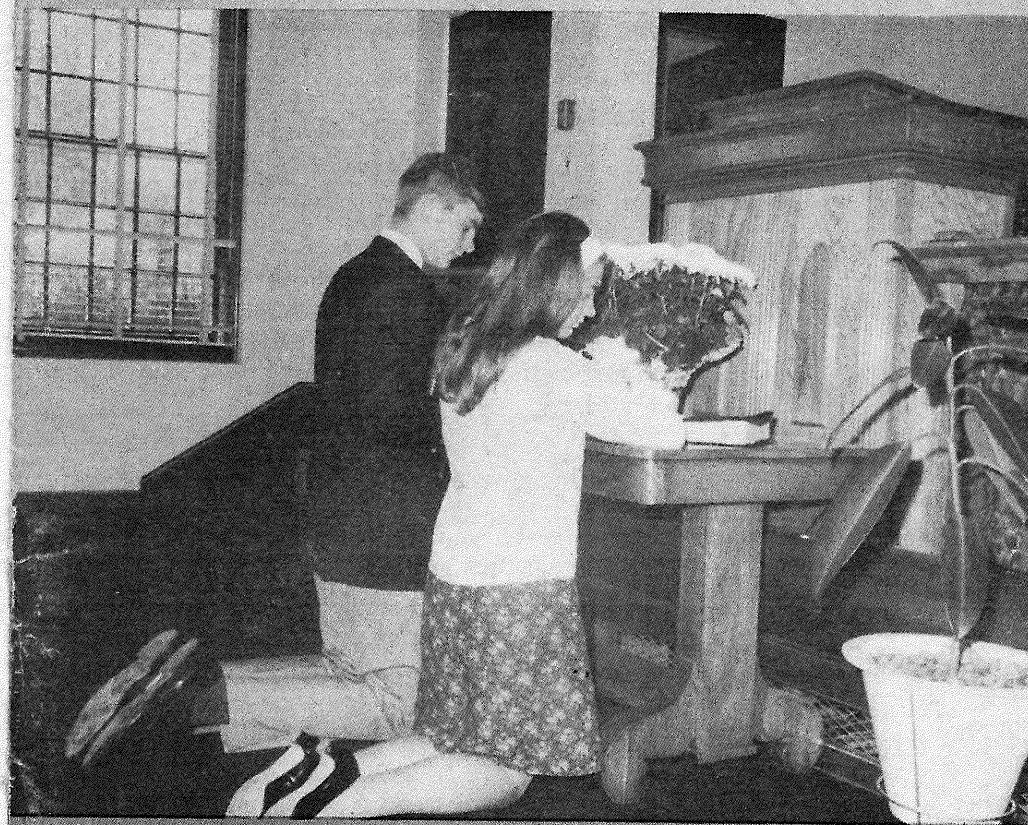
YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

Lakeside, Ohio

Ages: 20-40

Deposit: \$5.00 per person (by December 2)

Contact: Mrs. Marie Roche, Rt. 5, Box 75-F, Swanton, Ohio



**Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and
into his courts with praise . . . (Psalm 100:4).**

Aim The magazine for young people

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

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Vol. XXXIV, No. 11

Hope E. Dais, Editor

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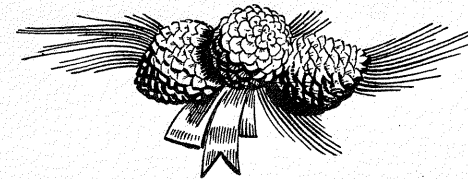
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Thoughts on Thanksgiving



By Judy Renz

Birds fly south to escape the chilling winter that lies ahead.
 Leaves turning amber and brass with touches of scarlet and gold
 form a blanket upon the ground.
 Hazy clouds drift lazily in the darkening skies.
 Cold winds bite exposed cheeks.
 Days shorten; nights lengthen.
 Purple twilight highlights the day.
 It is autumn. And thoughts turn to Thanksgiving . . .

A vision of a small girl dances across my mind. A small girl with small-girl problems and dreams. A little girl guided by love and sheltered from the impurities of life. Spread before her was a feast of turkey and dressing, cranberry sauce, corn, and almost anything one could imagine. This was the first Thanksgiving she could remember. Her mother had told her earlier that today was especially set aside to thank God for the blessings He had so freely given us. What was *she* thankful for? With an extreme effort, the little girl tried to recall all she had to be thankful for. As her mind untangled her thoughts, her lips uttered a humble prayer of thanks.

“Dear God,
 Thank You for my Mommy and Daddy and my brothers and baby sister. Some day when I’m a Mommy, let me love my children as much as mine loves me.

And God, thank You for the trees and birds and flowers. Mommy says that You made everything.

But most of all, God, thank You for letting me be alive so I can be thankful.

Thank You, again, God.

Amen”

That little girl has grown older and her thoughts have matured. "Another Thanksgiving Day and so many things to be grateful for," she ponders. Her mind is filled with both memories of the past and plans for the future as a prayer of thanks escapes her lips:

"Dear Heavenly Father,

As I think back to my childhood, I thank You for loving parents who shaped my life and for the guiding hands that gave me direction and help when I needed it. I pray, dear Lord, that when I take on those same responsibilities as a parent, I may give my children as much love and that I may guide them as You have commanded.

And thank You, God, for the beautiful things of this earth. Although they shall someday pass away, they testify of Thy great power of creation.

But above all, Father, thank You for giving me life through Jesus Christ, Your Son, and with that supreme sacrifice the promise of Your coming Kingdom.

Thank you for all these things, Lord.

Amen"

My eyes grow misty as I reflect what my Thanksgiving prayer will be in years to come.



I give thanks to Almighty God for His Holy Word that I might know Him. I give thanks for the Church of God (7th Day) that I might have fellowship with others who believe as I do. I give thanks for Midwest Bible College that I might learn more of God's ways. I give thanks for those who are spreading the Gospel through the printed page that others might come to the saving knowledge of the truth. I give thanks that I have the opportunity to present this testimony—others do not have this same freedom of speech. I give thanks that I can understand God's Word for many are blind to the truth. "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18).
—Eugene Anklam

"I Come Before Him with Thanksgiving."

By David Gartner

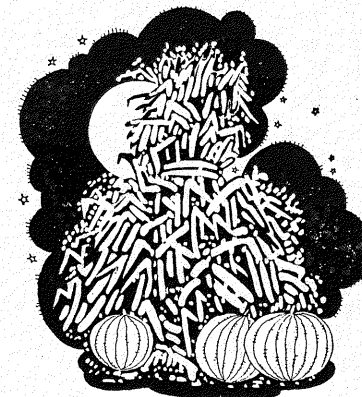
The chilling wind whips half-dead leaves from the tree tops, and as they come swirling to the ground below, the Thanksgiving celebration once more begins to creep into our minds...



So as Thanksgiving draws near, we must keep in mind the reasons why thanks should be given, and condition our minds and our environment. What kind of spiritual atmosphere do we find in our country this time of year? Is Thanksgiving just another "get-together"? I used to feel this way, until Christ changed my life; and now I am happy to say this is no longer true.

It is well for us to keep in mind just why we should be thankful to the Lord, for there are blessings which He has bestowed upon us that cannot be numbered. Just why did He call us out of a world of sinners? Why has He shown mercy and goodness to us many times when we did not deserve it? The most elegant words of man cannot adequately express my thanks for God's care for me in times past and even up to this moment.

"I will bless the Lord at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth" (Psa. 34:1). When we demonstrate our own thanks by Christian exampleship, others can see that we do believe in God. Such dedication to God is pleasing in His sight, and yet, is really no more than our "reasonable service" (Rom. 2:1). As Thanksgiving draws on, let us be thankful that God left this way of service open for us, and that He has in His great mercy allowed us to enjoy His wonderful blessings without price!



How I Feel About Thanksgiving

At Thanksgiving I remember to see . . .

especially, that there is One

Who can put together the scattered pieces in the jigsaw puzzle of my life—Who can see the significance, the beauty, of the smallest fragment and can lock each with His own ineffable love.

And I am thankful

That there is an answer . . . a purpose . . . a way
and with it
a beauty . . . a comfort . . . a joy—
a Love and a Hope.

—Carolyn Clements



Thank God for strength to endure the problems we felt were too hard to bear.

—Gina Tolbert



“Alabad á Jehová, porque es bueno; Porque para siempre es su misericordia. Porque para siempre es su misericordia” (Salmo 107:1).

I am thankful for the comfort I receive from my Heavenly Father in times of distress.

—Bob Dais

I am thankful most of all for my Christian home because without the proper guidance I would never have been able to find Christ and His Church.

—Denis Burrell

Thanksgiving is considered a time when everyone can take a day off from his daily work and enjoy a feast on good ole' turkey and dressing, but most important of all, we should remember that it is a time when we can especially thank God for all the wonderful things He has done for us. We set aside this day to give special thanks to Him for life, family, friends, salvation, His church, and for our country.

As our thanksgiving prayer we should thank God for everything He has done for us and especially thank and praise Him for His Son, Jesus Christ, Who died that someday we might live eternally. —Denis Burrell

Thanksgiving: a day set aside to give special thanks to God, our Creator, for all the blessings that have been ours during the past year. It is easy to recall the big things which happened to us during the year; but God deserves thanks for the little things we take for granted. I thank God for the delicate green of spring's grass, the resplendent colors of summer's flowers, the brilliant leaves of fall, and the silver fog on a winter's day.

This year I have a special prayer of Thanksgiving. A loved one has given her heart to the Lord. I trust we can all say with the Psalmist David, “Let the God of my salvation be exalted” (Psalm 18:46).

—Gina Tolbert

Todo lo que respira alabe á jah. Aleluya (Salmo 150:6).

Alaben la misericordia de Jehová,
Y sus maavillas para con los hijos de los hombres (Salmo 107:8).



I give thanks to God that I live in a nation which sets aside a special day for the purpose of giving thanks to Him who has blessed me beyond imagination.

—Eugene Anklam

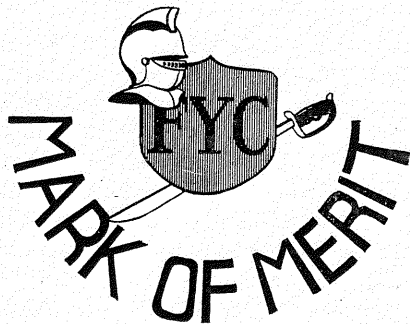


Alabad á Dios en su santuario:
Alabadle en la extensión do su fortaleza (Salmo 150:1).

Alabad á Jehová, naciones todas;
Pueblos todos, alabadle (Salmo 117:1).

If the material observance of Thanksgiving is not the overflowing of a spiritual celebration, then why go to all the trouble to make such a fuss over such an insignificant day?

—Carolyn Clements



by Nathan Lawson

Sorry. Due to attending Ministerial Council at Tulsa, Oklahoma this past month, I was unable to be home and get your reports processed in time to meet the deadline for this month's issue of AIM. The reports will appear in the AIM next month.

FINISH STRONG

We hope that your FYC Group can finish this present Mark of Merit year with a strong, active group. This way you will be able to begin right in the new year that is rapidly approaching.

CALLING ALL FYC GROUPS

Plan to work in the Mark of Merit program this coming year. If you are not in the program this year, then plan to join. Start working now. There will be great blessings in store for you, your Youth Group, and for your local church by participating in this program.

BONUS POINT PROGRAM

Several years ago an amendment was added to the Mark of Merit System to provide a Bonus Point plan that would determine an "FYC OF THE YEAR" in the CHURCH OF GOD (SEVENTH DAY). This FYC will be given a special LIGHTHOUSE AWARD and will be featured in AIM MAGAZINE as the FYC of the Year.

Bonus points will be used only to determine the "FYC OF THE YEAR." To be eligible for this TOP HONOR, a group must also win a Gold Mark of Merit Award in the regular program. A special bonus point report sheet is provided with the quarterly report.

The Bonus Point Program has been REVISED. We hope that this will allow large groups and small groups to compete alike. We hope that this Bonus Point program will help our FYC groups to keep reaching beyond goals to do our best for our Lord Jesus Christ. This Revised Program is ef-

fective beginning January 1, 1971. We encourage each of you to reach outward to reach souls and LIVE WORTHY of God's soon-coming Kingdom. In the words of our Lord, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." (John 9:4).

BONUS POINT STANDARDS:

- A. "AIM" Subscriptions and Renewals.
 - New Subscriptions 10 pts. each
 - Renewals 2 pts. each
 - Footprints
 - New Subscriptions 10 pts. each
 - Renewals 2 pts. each
- B. Extra Rallies, YP Meetings, and Devotionals.

FIVE points will be given for each extra Y. P. Meeting and Devotional. Rallies should be reported on the regular Mark of Merit Form and all extra programs on the Bonus Point Form.
- C. Extra Projects.

FIVE points will be given for all extra projects of a worth-while nature that are completed. List only those things that are really projects of the majority of your FYC members.
- D. Quarterly Report on Time.

TEN points will be given if your Quarterly report reaches the Mark of Merit Director by the **15th of the first month** after the quarter ends.
- E. Studying Sabbath School Lesson.

The following amounts of points will be given to your FYC for participation in Sabbath School Lesson Study prior to class time. The percentages are of registered FYC members.

Names of FYC members must be recorded on the Report Form so they can be checked against the Registration Blank.

 - 50% registered FYC members 10 points
 - 75% registered FYC members 25 points
 - 100% registered FYC members 50 points
- F. Personal Merit Program—Report once a year.

TWENTY-FIVE points will be given for each FYC member who completes the annual personal merit program called the "EVANGELIST PROGRAM." This is reported only once a year—at the end of December. Remember to report monthly, though, to your Evangelist Director, Sheryl Youngs. Names listed here will be checked with Sheryl at the end of the year.
- G. 2T4G Program.

The following amounts of points will be given to your FYC for participation in the 2T4G Program. This is the Personal TAKE TIME FOR GOD Program. This is Prayer and Bible Reading every day

of the quarter. The percentages are of registered FYC members. Names will be checked against your Registration Form.

- 50% registered FYC members 10 points
- 75% registered FYC members 25 points
- 100% registered FYC members 50 points

H. Minuteman Program.

The following amounts of points will be given to your FYC for participation in the MINUTEMAN program. FYCers must memorize a new memory verse every two weeks of the entire quarter. Verses should be taken from the MINUTEMAN program in "AIM." Your leaders should keep a record during the quarter of those completing this standard.

- 50% registered FYC members 10 points
- 75% registered FYC members 25 points
- 100% registered FYC members 50 points

I. "AIM" Readership.

The following amounts of points will be given to your FYC for participation in the AIM READERSHIP program. FYC members reported must read the AIM each month for the quarter reported. The percentages are for registered FYC members.

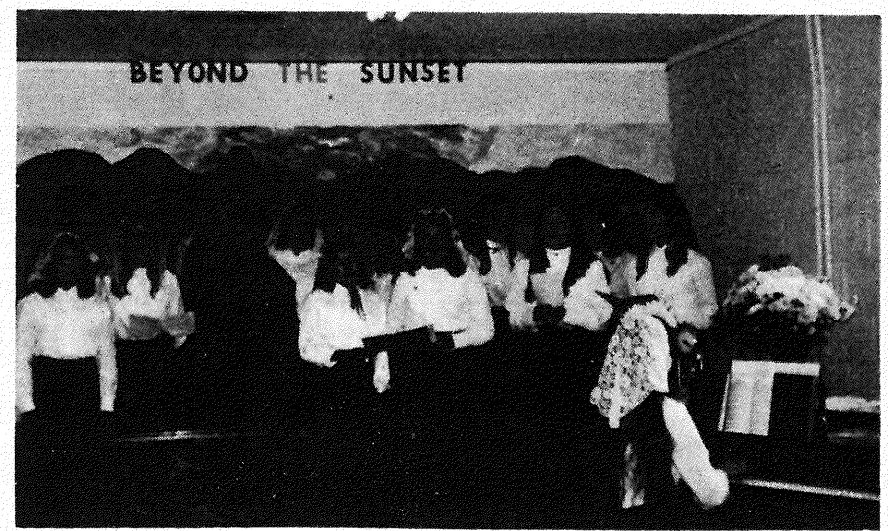
- 50% registered FYC members 25 points
- 75% registered FYC members 50 points
- 100% registered FYC members 100 points

- Active FYCers

week, we gave away over 40,000 pieces of literature, including 1500 Bible Advocates, 600 AIM magazines, and 5,000 candy suckers with Bible verses and our church name and address attached.

A leading newspaper in the city carried our ad in a special section, "The Orbit." This included information about the fair booth, the church, Searchlight Bible Course, and other pertinent information. A local radio station gave free spot announcements.

One of the most rewarding aspects of this endeavor was the outstanding interest and response shown by teenagers and young married people. Many seem to be searching for truth and the proper way to worship God.



Saginaw F.Y.C. Youth Rally

The Saginaw, Mich. F.Y.C. held their first youth rally Saturday, October 12, 1970. The theme, "Beyond the Sunset," was carried out with many songs, poems, and a sermon by our guest speaker, Brother Paul Heavilin. Our theme song, "Beyond the Sunset," was sung by Yolanda Vasquez. Ruben Garza was Master of Ceremonies. The younger children also took part in the rally. They presented songs, poems, and a very nice skit entitled "The Call to Christian Service."

We were very glad that many of the brothers and sisters from Freeland and Vasser were able to attend. A few of the Spring Vale students were also able to come.

We all gained a wonderful blessing from presenting this program, and we hope the people who attended received the same blessing.

Isabel Godina

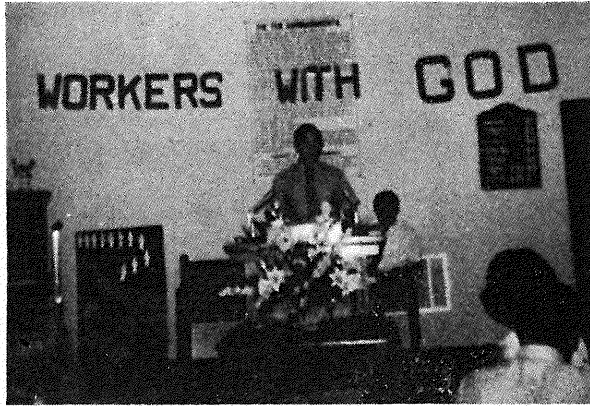
Youth at Oklahoma City State Fair distributing gospel literature: Janet Freeman, Jerry Jordan, Vicki Butrick.



During the Oklahoma State Fair held in October, the Oklahoma City Church of God (7th Day) maintained the booth shown above in the "Made in Oklahoma Building."

The large sign across the back of the booth was very attractive and eye-catching. Thousands of people stopped by and visited at the booth. During this

Workers with God



Guest speaker, Ken Knoll, is speaking to the youth attending Fort Smith Youth Retreat, the theme of which was "Workers with God."

With their first retreat in the spring of '69, the Fort Smith young people had proved to themselves and others that your best times are in the Lord. So choosing the theme, "Workers with God," they set the date September 4-6 for their second retreat. Guest speaker was Elder Kenneth Knoll from Conroe, Texas.

Friday night services sparked the beginning of a wonderful weekend with several inspiring numbers by the Tahlequah Band directed by Clyde Hinds, followed by Elder Knoll's message, "Working for God."

On Sabbath, the one hundred people who were present at the all-day meeting were once again inspired by God's message through Elder Knoll. After a good time of fellowship to-

gether during the noon meal, the Fort Smith young people presented a program, "Workers with God," showing different ways of working such as the doctor who heals, the shoe repairman who fixes the sole, the farmer who sows the seed, the teacher who teaches the truth, the railroad engineer who carries the message, the telephone operator who spreads the good news, and the pastor. Four national FYC leaders gave talks concerning FYC work: "Evangelette" director, Sheryl Youngs; Minuteman director, Mike Vlad; and committeemen, Bob Dais and Carolyn Clements.

After the program, the young people went to the fellowship building for a quiz on August AIM. Given time to

change clothes for the evening, they came back to the fellowship building for the evening meal. Just about sundown a group of enthusiastic young people headed for the Arkansas River bank. Arriving just before sundown, they gathered around, singing as they watched the sun set.

Gathering around the campfire, they sang choruses and played Bible games to end the night's activities. Mike Vlad gave a short sermonette. Departing from the river bank, they carried with them memories of experiences that would not be forgotten. The boys spent the night at the fellowship building and the girls went to the home of Sister Barbara Burrell.

Sunday morning brought the group together again at Brother and Sister Burrells'. The young people piled into cars and headed for the state park Devil's Den for a cookout breakfast of eggs, potatoes and beef sausage.

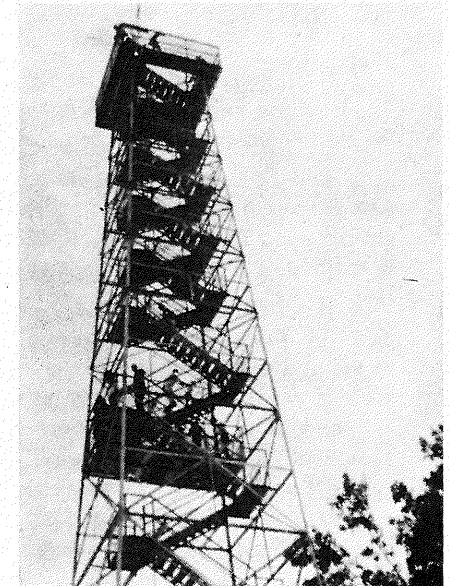
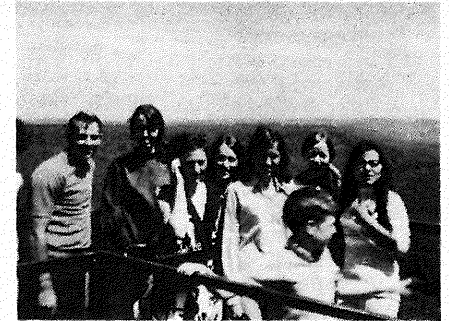
After breakfast, they headed for a hike through the Devil's Den, Ice Box, and crevices. Bob Dais gave the last sermonette of the retreat in the Devil's Ice Box. After the hike, the young people got into cars, drove to Mt. Gaylor and climbed the tower.

A "high"light of the retreat was the ascension to the top of the tower on Mt. Gaylor. If you look closely, you can see the young people climbing the tower. The picture above was taken on the tower top.

After saying good-bye to the Midwest Bible College students, who had to depart homeward, the young people went on down the mountain to Lake Fort Smith for boat rides.

When they arrived back at the fellowship building about 5 o'clock, the cooks, Barbara Burrell, Vada Gibbz, and Peggy Harris, had tacos and beans prepared for the hungry young people.

Young people had traveled here from Fairview, Tulsa and Claremore, Oklahoma; and from Wichita, Kansas, as well as the Stanberry group.



Neighbors Around the World

John Lemley, Foreign Correspondent

FYC ACTIVITIES IN POLAND

An affiliation with the folks in Poland is anticipated as soon as we can send a representative there. Here is another fine report from Brother Bronislaw Ciesielski on the progress of the newly-established FYC in Poland.

"I pray that our collaboration will be daily more wealthy. The first event of importance during our summer holiday was the Polish Conference meeting held in Secrecin. In this town we have a little church. There were two delegations from the church in Czechoslovakia and Hungary. This was our first time for meeting the

Hungarians. Four brothers and one sister came from there. In Hungary, on September 5, was their Conference, but I couldn't go because I didn't get my passport in time.

"After the Conference our small youth group went to a health resort at Potcayr Zdroj. In the first week of camp we had 17 members, in the second week 14 members, and in the third week only 10 members. The terrain was very pretty. And we really enjoyed our summer holiday from school by camping together and seeking God.

"The lectures were twice each day. Brother B. Hoffman spoke on the



Shown above are some of those who attended the general conference in Crecrecin, Poland.



These young people shared together in seeking God at the youth camp held at Potcayr Zdroj. It was a rewarding experience.

ten commandments. And I talked about the importance and meaning of the old testament for Christians today. After the three weeks were over the campers at Potcayr Zdroj were very satisfied.

"Greet all the youth in the U.S.A. for us."

FYC ACTIVITIES IN EREMA, NIGERIA

"The FYC meeting conducted at the church in Erema was our second meeting in the Ogba District. It was a success for many members attended. A little collection was made in order to buy some writing materials. Requests were made and I was asked to write to you. They need tracts and youth materials as soon as possible. Because we will soon start to arrange for our youth camp. The youth also need help for Bible studies which they started before the war and were unable to finish. Many churches have been sending in relief materials to their members. The FYC also needs relief from the fellow FYC in Amer-

ica. We have a project of building an FYC office of which the blocks are ready. We need help for the building of the office."—W. N. Wokocho

FYC ACTIVITIES IN IDU-OSOBILE, NIGERIA

"With regard to FYC we had our first meeting to reorganize conducted at the Idu-Osobile Church. There we had considerable attendance of about 125 members. This was the first meeting after the war in our Ogba District. The activities of that meeting that day were the election of officers. I will soon send you the names of the new officers."—W. N. Wokocho

FYC ACTIVITIES IN AHOADA, NIGERIA

"Greetings to you in Jesus' name. I know this letter would meet you by surprise. I feel I should write you to know more facts about the FYC work in America. I am the leader of the FYC group in Ahoada Division and the Assistant FYC leader in Ni-

geria. Benmiah Tikili of the Ayaba Church of God (7th Day) is the General Leader of the FYC in Nigeria.

"The war in Nigeria is ended and the FYC is now carrying her activities as usual. There are lots of inquiries to make about the work of the FYC, since we haven't had contact for so long. Please up-date us on what is happening. When we learn more, then we will send better reports of the FYC here. Please pray for the FYC work here. I take care of the Ekepeye and Ogba Districts. Your earliest reply would be much appreciated. Convey my heartiest greetings to all our brothers there, the young people particularly.

—Nehemiah Okpuyi

Brother Nssien has not known of the Church of God long. In October he traveled at great sacrifice to spend four days with Elder B. I. Tikili, overseer of our work in Nigeria. In December it is scheduled that Elder Tikili and an associate will visit Broth-

er Nssien's orphanage, and submit a recommendation regarding affiliation.

FYC ACTIVITIES IN IKPA-EKET, NIGERIA

"May God bless you in Jesus' wonderful name! This is to let you know that the Youth Materials have finally arrived. I have sent in the form with 28 FYCers who want to organize. We love to work together with you and for our youth here to be Faithful Youth Challengers with all of you in the United States. So many youth are coming to the church here that we need more youth materials and tracts too to help us evangelize. Our main project now is to try to take care of the orphans. My wife and a widowed sister are wearing themselves out with the orphans. Three of them are sick because of hunger. They have not enough food and all we can give them is loving care. Please help us with the rest."—E. T. Nssien

JUST TOO MUCH MUSTARD!

There is a story told about a countryman who lived way back in the mountains, who was in the city for the very first time. He went into a restaurant and made up his mind to have something fine, whatever the cost. He saw a man at the next table put a little mustard on his plate and he said to himself, "That must be fine and expensive, he has so little; but no matter what the cost, I want some."

So he told the waiter to bring him a dollar's worth of "that stuff." A plate of mustard was brought. He took a big spoonful; it bit his tongue. He spit it out and did not want any more.

So, we too, ask for things that if our heavenly Father should give them to us, we would only be bitten by them and be glad to get rid of them. We ask for so many foolish things. If we should get them, we would not know what to do with them.

"Ye ask and receive not because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts" (James 4:3).—Horace Walker

Tell Me, Please

Youth Questions

answered by

Ray L. Straub



QUESTION:

You probably don't run into my kind of problem. I want to go to church, but my parents hardly ever get me there. They promise, but when it's time to leave for church they start arguing, or they find some excuse not to go.

ANSWER:

What irony! Most parents have a struggle getting their children to church. You have a struggle getting your parents there.

God knows your problem, and you can be sure that He is concerned. He is asking you to be patient only because He knows you can do it. Keep trying to get your parents to take you to church, because you are right in wanting to go, and all of you need to be there.

Keep praying. Don't let discouraging circumstances at home take away

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

your faith in a Heavenly Father Who loves you.

Try to contact the pastor of the church you like to attend. I am sure that he will consider it a delight to be of service to someone like you.

QUESTION:

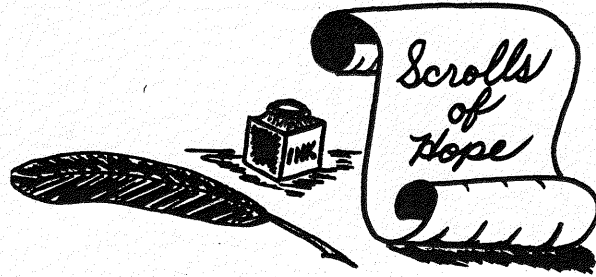
I have a real good job, and up to now, working on Sabbath has not been a problem. I just found out that I have to work on Sabbath once in awhile after receiving a promotion. I can't afford to quit, because we wouldn't make it financially. I don't think I have a choice (whether or not I work on Sabbath when asked), do you?

ANSWER:

Whether or not you have to work on Sabbath depends on the kind of god you serve. If yours turns his back on you when you run out of a job, you have no choice.

Some good friends of mine worship a God that promises to take care of His own, whether they are in plenty or not. In fact, He has been known to test the faith of my friends only to present them with more after the test than before! It would be great if you got to know HIM!

THANKSGIVING - Scrolls of Hope



It is doubtful that one can celebrate Thanksgiving in the true sense of the word even one day out of the year if his remaining 364 days are marred by discontent.

Recently as I heard a group of young people singing the chorus, "I woke up this mornin' feelin' fine; I woke up with glory on my mind," it occurred to me that this pretty well depicts the sort of attitude that should be ours in order to be truly thankful Christians.

Never was it promised to us as Christians that our days would *always* be sunny, but rather God has promised us grace for the trials and strength for the day. This assurance is why the Christian has so much for which to be thankful, in spite of the burdens and difficulties he may be facing.

Every day can be a "... woke-up-this-mornin'-feelin'-fine" day. Our own choice—our own attitude—decides it all. God offers us peace and contentment. The degree to which we accept this is up to our own choosing.

I recall a pamphlet which I read years ago, "My Blessing, Not My Doom." The author had discovered, by taking a two-month vacation, that his work was something which he enjoyed—something which he needed in order to be happy and content. He was lamenting the fact that all too many people don't understand this until they no longer have their work to enjoy. After years of resentment and complaint, they realize that the only thing disagreeable about their work was their own attitude toward it.

Many of us in our younger years find our schedules very crowded. It may be our schoolwork schedule; it may be our class schedule *plus* a job. It may be our full-time job plus outside activities and responsibilities which seem to more than fill our 24-hour days. For a young mother, it may be lively days with lively little tots—days which may be considered hectic, or may be considered blessed. Much of it depends upon our own frame of mind.

Most young people in the situations just described will someday look back and realize with longing that these were some of the happiest days of their lives. It is up to each of us to make our days ones of thanksgiving. It is up to us to keep up our "gratitude attitude." Our spirit can commune with God so consistently that we will sing through the days that used to seem hectic. A defeatist attitude has made many a mountain out of a molehill.

AIM The magazine for young people

Post Office Box 158, Stanberry, Missouri 64489

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Teen Guidelines

God's Choice or Your Gamble???

Jewell Linville

"...til death do us part..."

Surely God is grieved with the way these serious words are considered so lightly in our present world of "love-ins," "trial" marriages, and "unrestrained" passion! Such gross deviation from God's plan for man and woman!

Yes, God *does* have a plan—and He has a plan *especially* for you! You need only to submit to His guidance "casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you" (1 Peter 5:7). Our God is not so busy controlling the universe that He cannot take time to direct you in the most important decision of your life (other than that of salvation itself). Our God *is* concerned that you choose the proper companion—one who will bring you the ultimate in personal happiness and joyous fulfillment in service to Him—together with your mate.

God has the answers. He is ready and willing to give them to you. But

first, you must be ready and willing to seek God's guidance and accept His way for your life. You must be willing to "commit thy way unto the Lord, trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass" (Psalm 37:5).

God can guide you in your choice of a mate just as surely as He guided Abraham's servant to choose Rebekah for Isaac's wife (Genesis 24). This isn't to say you should expect such a "sign" as in Isaac's case, but you can be just as certain in your choice. In fact, you **MUST** be just as confident! Anything short of absolute certainty should be regarded as contrary to the will of God.

IS IT TRULY LOVE?

The point of absolute certainty must never be considered merely an emotional "assurance," either. God gave us an intellect with a special reasoning power for such matters. At the same time, you may follow some

basic guidelines in recognizing the "prince charming" or the "lovely queen" God has chosen especially for you...

To be able to recognize your "intended," you must first identify love itself. Love is God's signboard to lead you to His choice for you, and love cannot be measured by a presence of mere sensual desires and passions. True, these will accompany love—will appear "as a result of" but never as a basis for!

Most often, the misconception that these physical lusts mean love comes during years of immaturity. No young person, especially the immature, wants to be told that he is simply not mature enough to distinguish love from lust, or that he is too young to make such a significant decision. But, young people, it is imperative that you listen to the "voice of experience" of your parents, your pastor, and mature adults as they cry out for you to BE CAREFUL and wait for maturity to help you reach a decision that will affect your entire life and perhaps even your eternal life! When that age of maturity comes (most often not until after the teenage years), let God guide you into a true and lasting love with the marriage partner of His choice.

DOES YOUR LOVE STAND THE "TEST"?

TRUE love will not deviate from God's own description of love as found in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7:

"Charity suffereth long,
and is kind;
Charity envieth not;
Charity vaunteth not itself,
is not puffed up,
Doth not behave itself unseemly.

Seeketh not her own,
is not easily provoked,
Thinketh no evil;
Rejoiceth not in iniquity,
but rejoiceth in the truth;
Beareth all things,
Believeth all things,
Hopeth all things,
Endureth all things."

If you possess this type of completely selfless love, you will quite naturally be able to answer "yes" to the following questions:

1. Do thoughts of his (or her) approval spur you on to greater achievements?
2. In whatever you are doing, do you consider what his (or her) reaction will be?
3. Are your happiest times when you are together?
4. Are you proud to be identified with him (or her) in a crowd as well as privately with your best friend?
5. Do you think of him (or her) as deserving of the loving labor of your hands?
6. Do you quite naturally think of your future as shared with him (or her)?
7. Do you dream of a baby boy with traits "just like his" (or a baby girl with traits "just like hers")?
8. Do you admire him (or her) just "as he (or she) is"? *If you have in mind to change him (or her) after marriage, you've made the wrong choice—What makes you think you can change traits that have been 20-25 years in developing?*
9. Do you find in him (or her) the qualities you want in a mate?
10. Are you satisfied with attention

from him (or her) only? *If you desire to be in company with another man (or woman), you had better give a second thought to your choice—you simply are NOT "in love"!*

11. Are you compatible? *This does not mean just part of the time either, although there will quite naturally be some instances of disagreement, but these should be very few and should be easily settled.*
12. Do you admire the way he (or she) treats his (or her) parents? *This treatment often indicates far better the "real you" than the charming companion you are on a date!*
13. Are his (or her) habits pleasing to you? *If his (or her) habits are distasteful to you, you should consider that other habits will come to the surface after marriage. Do you have what it takes to live the rest of your life with those "habits"?*

If you cannot answer "yes" to the preceding questions, you are obliged to give yourself a chance by waiting on the Lord until that point of surety comes. Don't be afraid to remain single for a while longer. After all, God's foreknowledge allows Him to know what is best for you, and you can be assured that if you have doubts about your choice, that "still small voice" is God telling you to "wait."

Remember, God's thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are God's ways your ways (Isaiah 55:8), but the wisdom that is from above is pure (James 3:17). Even David, a man after God's own heart, exclaims that "such knowledge is too wonderful for

me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it" (Psalm 139:6). Is it not only fitting that you should rely on that infinite wisdom of God to guide you aright in the decision that will affect your entire life and your service to Him as well?

"... WAIT PATIENTLY ..."

"Haste makes waste," and with an improper decision in such a serious matter, the "waste" may be your life! Many a home in today's confused world rings with the theme "If I could live over..." These "wasted years" simply do not have to be the case in your lives, young people, for God will guide those who want to be guided. "Be not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding; whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle..." (Psalm 32:9), but rather know for a surety that "... the Lord shall guide thee continually" (Isaiah 58:11) if you will only "rest in the Lord and wait patiently for him..." (Psalm 37:7). "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3:5, 6).

Perhaps God has your path directed toward a few years of service to Him before limiting that service by obligating yourself to the natural responsibilities of a married life. Or, to the contrary, perhaps God's plan for your service to Him can best be accomplished as a partner to the marriage contract.

Regardless of what the plan might be for your life, the important consideration is to allow God to direct. "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and

he shall give thee the desires of thine heart" (Psalm 37:4).

This verse in Psalm 37 brings to mind a beautiful fulfillment of the promise as it occurred in the life of a very dedicated young lady. She, being exceptionally diligent in seeking God's leading, had concluded (following some concentrated study of 1 Corinthians 7) that God's purpose for her life was that of complete celibacy. Soon after her acceptance of God's supposed plan for her life, God brought her together with a young man who was, in every sense of the word, "meant" for her. It is enlightening to note that it was only when she was willing to happily give ALL to God that He gave ALL to her!

Won't you join this happy young couple by "delighting yourself in the Lord" and thereby answer God's plea inspired through the lips of the prophet Jeremiah in Chapter 3, verse 4: "Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, My father, thou art the guide of my youth?"

SCRIPTURAL GUIDELINES

When one seeks God's guidance, however, he must be careful that he does not ask God to guide him in a choice that is already condemned in the Scripture. All too many times young people (and older ones alike) try to "tempt" God by placing certain stipulations on their requests for direction. For example, when young Louise asked God whether she should marry John, a member of an opposite faith, she made the stipulation that if she didn't become ill before breakfast that morning, she would assume her good health to mean that it was God's will for her to marry John. Of course, she did not become

ill and today she is paying for her mistake through her own life of discontent and mental anguish. "Can two walk together except they be agreed" (Amos 3:3)?

God demonstrates His disapproval of such inter-denominational marriages by His punishment against the whole earth in Noah's day when the people of God took wives of those of the heathen (Genesis 6). He further demonstrated His disapproval by pouring His wrath upon the children of Israel when they married outside the realm of God's people (Numbers 25 and Nehemiah 13). In the new scriptures, He gives a direct command to "be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness" (2 Corinthians 6:14)?

God also sets forth a command that "Thou shalt not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14), and "...whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery" (Matthew 5:32).

Such deviations from God's plan only serve to hamper or eliminate your service to Him, not to mention the unrest that it will inevitably create in your own life plus the confusion and insecurity it will bring to the lives of your children; but the converse is true when one really follows God's divine plan. Recently, I received a letter from one of my former high school students, now a college graduate, who was married just last August. Her testimony is so exemplary of what God will do if we allow Him to guide: "I'm really thankful that I waited upon God to

(Continued on page 32)

Youth Doctrine Corner

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



PROPHECY AND SIGNS OF ITS FULFILLMENT

Official Church of God Doctrine—Article No. 30

- ... **Prophecy has not been just the guesses, imagination, or speculation of men. All Bible prophecy was penned by holy men of God after the Holy Spirit had revealed future events to them. It was given so that those who studied it might know where they were on the highway of time, and today students of the Bible can see signs of prophetic fulfillment in much that is taking place in the political, religious, physical, and social world which reveals to them that the advent of Christ is very near.**

Prophecy is Inspired by God and Unfailing

- ... **Came through Holy Spirit** (2 Peter 1:20, 21).
- ... **God is only one able to foretell future accurately** (Isa. 41:21-23; 46:9, 10).
- ... **Failure of the prophet's word—a sign of a false prophet** (Deut. 18:20-22).

Prophecy to Show Us Our Place in Time

- ... **A sure word that lights our way** (2 Peter 1:19; 1 Thess. 5:2-4).
- ... **Like a fig leaf that tells of coming summer** (Luke 21:29, 30).
- ... **Commands to watch and be ready** (Luke 21:36; 1 Thess. 5:6).

Prophecies Showing us the Time in Which We Live

- ... **Last-day social troubles** (2 Tim. 3:1-7).
- ... **Last-day knowledge increase** (Dan. 12:12).
- ... **Last-day stress among nations** (Luke 21:25-27).
- ... **Last-day building up of Zion (Israel)** (Psalm 102:16).
- ... **Last-day lack of concern** (Matt. 24:37-39).

Planning for YOUTH

By Dale Lawson

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Having coordinated our work almost entirely through correspondence for many months, we felt a real thrill as we found ourselves together in person when the fifteen members of the Leadership Committee, all four members of the National Committee, three of the program directors and the editor of AIM magazine gathered around a U-Shaped table arrangement in the dining hall at Leadership Retreat.

Eager faces were aglow with the thrill of being involved with the work of the Church. Such enthusiasm makes one feel blessed to be associated with the group.

It was helpful to exchange ideas concerning our system of correspondence between the National FYC office and the Leadership Committeemen, and their subsequent correspondence with their assigned local FYC groups.

The discussion concerning church assignments also proved to be valuable and, as a result, some assignments were rearranged to better facilitate the

work. All assignments will be listed in the next issue of AIM with a special feature concerning our Leadership Committee.

This meeting stands to be of great benefit to the Young People's Department. The entire Leadership Committee idea and work can now be more effective than it has ever been before.

We urge you FYC leaders and, in fact, your entire group, to keep in touch with your Leadership Committeeman. He has been appointed to serve you!

NATIONAL COMMITTEE

The National Committee for the Young People's Department was privileged to have two committee meetings this fall. One was held on August 25 at Denver, Colorado; the other was held October 7-13 during lunch breaks at ministerial council.

The meetings were extremely profitable in that they helped us map out work for the coming year. Some of the important items of business discussed were:

- Wholesale Bible games for local FYC groups on a "share profits" basis with National FYC.
- Recommended revised financial program for the National FYC.
- The request from the Mexican brethren for the National FYC to send a representative to the Mexican Ministerial Council to help with the organization of their young people.
- Employment of Young People's Department Chairman on half-time basis.
- Adoption of a Youth Evangelism tract mailing program.
- Appointment of a program committee for the youth activities at General Conference in LaVerne, California.

Be watching AIM *News and Reminders* for notice of further development of these plans.

For God so Loved

What have missionaries and preachers proclaimed to the world? What has touched the hearts of millions of mankind? What caused multitudes to weep at Jesus' feet? What changed hearts and lives? It was the love of God. This realization prompts me to turn to God with these thoughts:

Dear Heavenly Father,

At this Thanksgiving season, I humbly thank You for the many, many blessings You have given to me, although I know I can never thank You enough.

Thank you especially for Your love—love that is indescribable, and yet is the object of everlasting contemplation, wonder, and praise.

The world was in a ruinous state, condemned to perish, and was utterly without power to rescue itself from destruction. Not one of us deserves Your concern and Your mercy. But You, through Your eternal love, provided for the world's rescue and for salvation for its inhabitants.

I am part of that world. My Lord, how unworthy I am, but nonetheless, I thank you.

Ruth Ling

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

Seven Ducks in Muddy Water

By Donna Larson

You call yourself a Christian. You go to church every Sabbath. You're an officer in your local FYC group. You sing special numbers for the church services and you're a member of the choir. When your FYC group goes rest-home singing and passes out tracts, you go along. You're ready and willing to help plan youth rallies. You pay tithes and give an offering every week. Bible reading and prayer are a part of your daily routine. You invite a friend to church once in a while. You think you're a pretty good Christian.

But what if God asks you to do some thing that isn't so normal, isn't so easy, isn't so conventional? What if He asks you to do something that goes beyond the realm of typical everyday Christianity?

The Bible tells of a man who was asked to do something that he felt was more than should be required of him. Elisha asked Naaman to dip himself seven times in the Jordan River in order to be cleansed of leprosy. Naaman wasn't very eager. This wasn't what he had expected. Seven ducks in muddy water weren't very typical, weren't very conventional. Naaman was afraid he might look foolish in the eyes of others if he dipped himself in the unclean, muddy water of the Jordan. But seven ducks in muddy water were the extra steps God asked him to take.

What about you? Are you willing to take seven ducks in muddy water? Would you ask a friend or maybe a stranger if he knows Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour? Are you warning anyone that prophecy is being fulfilled rapidly and Jesus is coming very, very soon? If there is a need, are you willing, not only to pray about it, but to fast?

Think about it. Will you forget about yourself and yield to the extra steps God asks you to take?

Do we call her a committee"ling" or a committee"let"? At any rate, she is being called Carla Kay Knoll. She is the new daughter of National Committee member, Ken Knoll and his wife, Mary Jean, who is one of our faithful Leadership Committee members. Carla Kay was born on October 1. Our sincere congratulations!!!

"All Ye Lands . . ."

SALMO 100

*Cantad alegres á Dios, habitantes de toda la tierra.
Servid á Jehová con alegría:
Venid ante su acatamiento con regocijo.
Reconoced que Jehová él es Dios:
El nos hizo, y no nosotros á nosotros mismos;
Pueblo suyo somos, y ovejas de su prado.
Entrad por sus puertas con reconocimiento,
Por sus atrios con alabanza:
Alabadle, bendecid su nombre.
Porque Jehová es bueno: para siempre es su misericordia,
Y su verdad por todas las generaciones.*

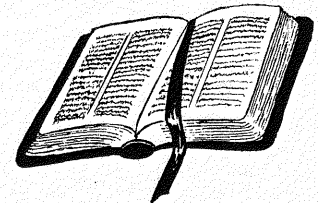
PSALM 100

**Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands
Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing
Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name
For the Lord is good: his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.**



DER 100 PSALM

Ein Dankpsalm.
jauchzet dem Herrn, alle Welt.
Dienet dem Herrn mit Freuden, kommt vor sein Ungesicht mit Frohloken.
Erkennet, dass der Herr Gott ist. Er hat uns gemacht, und nicht wir selbst, zu seinem Folk, und zu Schafen seiner weide.
Gehet zu seinen toren ein mit Danken, zu seinen Forhufen mit Loben; danket ihm, lobet seinen Namen.
Denn der Her rist freundlich, und seine Gnade wahret ewig, und seine Wahrheit fuer und fuer.



Half-time Youth Worker

Elder Dale Lawson, chairman of the Young People's Department, will be working "half-time" for the National FYC. Starting November 1, Elder Lawson will be spending each afternoon in the National FYC office, coordinating the national projects and programs.

Newly-Organized FYC Groups

The National FYC office recently received letters from the Bronx and Manhattan churches in New York City, informing us of their desire to establish organized FYC groups and to work with the National FYC. We praise God for this good news and we trust He will bless those New York FYC groups abundantly.

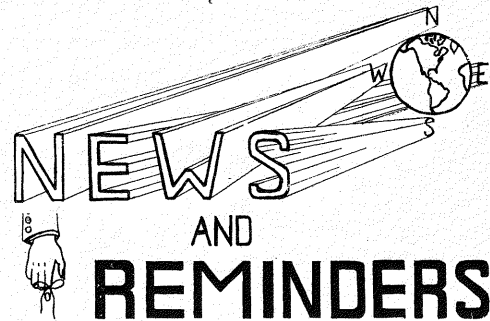
We also have had contact with a Clarks, Nebraska group of young people and they have informed us of their recent FYC organization. There are seven FYCers in this group and they desire your prayers as they work for the Master.

General Conference Program Committee

The National FYC Committee recently appointed the National Youth Workers residing in Stanberry, Missouri to serve as a planning committee for the Youth Program at the coming General Conference.

That committee is as follows:

- National Committeemen: Dale Lawson and Bob Dais
- Leadership Committeemen: Gail



Rincker, Jewell Linville, Carolyn Clements and Larry Moldenhauer

Program Directors: Sheryl Youngs (Evangelette)
Mike Vlad (Minuteman)

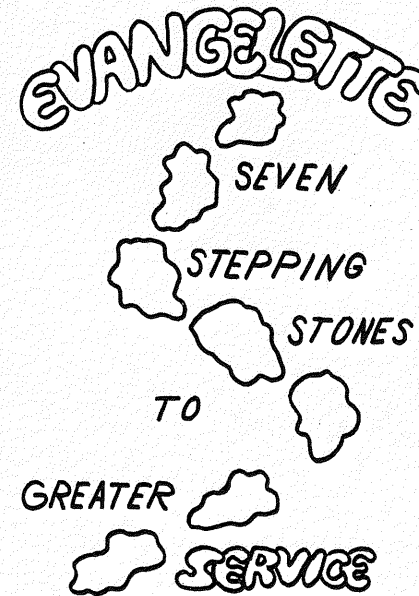
The program committee will be happy to receive suggestions for the program from any FYCers of FYC groups around the country.

We urge you to attend the General Conference youth meeting to be held this coming August 6-14 at Laverne, California. We expect to have hundreds of young people from all over the U.S.A. there.

EVANGELLETES—Where are you?

From National Leadership Retreat, Nigeria, Jamaica, the Philippines, retreats, and local FYCs, more FYCers than ever before have joined our personal merit program—more are needed.

January is the month of a new beginning for EVANGELLETTE; all FYCers are urged to participate. A new booklet will soon be in your hands. As a new standard is introduced each month, leaders are also urged to follow along.



Are You
A
Phony?

"I HATE phonies....!"

"Just show me one guy that believes in what he advocates, I mean really believes... Squares! Show me one that ain't a hypocrite. My old man, he's another one of those 'do-as-I-say-NOT-as-I-do-people;' his kind turn me off, I mean off, WAY OFF! I'd sooner rot than be a phony..."

"I HATE PHONIES!!!"

Hating, dissatisfied, another joins the retreat from a sad-sick-society to search. As the pavement ends, scads of hard, cruel faces pass—a lonely road begins, rutted, yellowed, and dried. Hot, powdery dust—parched, dry throat—pangs of hunger intensifying—starved, thirsty, a heart cries out "I need... I need... I Need... I WANT! Somebody tell me what is missing??"

Truth? What is truth? Where??

Love? What? Who??

Happiness??

What am I to believe in? WHAT IS MISSING? Will someone PLEASE ANSWER ME??

A Cult . . .

drop out,

unsandel,

no wash, no shave.

A Cause . . .

A Rick cries out, "Get out of Vietnam! We must not kill! I will not kill!!

A Bob cries, "Government must change. Corruptness must cease. You must change!"

A Lynn cries, "Materialism is wrong. Selfish people stop hoarding!"

A young radical writes his girlfriend:

"We radicals have a high casualty rate. We are the ones who get shot and hung and tarred and feathered and jailed and slandered and ridiculed and fired from our jobs and in every other way made as uncomfortable as possible. A certain percentage of us get killed. We radicals don't have the time for movies or concerts. We've been described as fanatics. We are. Our lives are dominated by one great overshadowing factor—the struggle for revolution. We radicals have a philosophy of life which no amount of money can buy. We have a cause to fight for, a definite purpose in life, and we subordinate our petty, personal selves into a great movement of humanity. And if our personal lives seem hard or our egos appear to suffer through subordination to the cause, then we are adequately compensated by the thought that each of us in his small way is helping do something to make a better world. There is one thing about which I am dead earnest, and that is the radical cause. It is my life, my business, my religion, my hobby, my sweetheart, my wife, my mistress, my bread and my meat. I work at it in the daytime and I dream of it at night. Its hold on me grows, not lessens, as time goes on. Therefore, I cannot carry on a friendship, a love affair, or even a conversation without relating to this force which both drives and guides my life. I evaluate people, books, ideas, actions, according to how they affect radical causes and by their attitudes toward it. I have already been in jail because of my ideas, and if necessary, I am ready to go before a firing squad."

The fiery sun sinks, and sets, gross darkness falls. With bitter tears I tell you he found an answer. Yes another lad found . . .

A way to wreck his life . . .

a strong delusion—lies
LSD
"free love"
mad pleasure

A way to end his life . . .

carbon monoxide
a bridge
a bullet

BUT, where were you when the bridge was walked, the key was turned, the trigger fingered? Where were you? Or did you even hear? Have you not felt the agony of our restless generation? Young people, Church of God young people, I ask you why? Why hasn't the "cup of water" been given when craved? Why haven't answers been given when truth was searched, when happiness longed for, when love sought? Why, oh why, did you let the sun sink and the darkness blind? Have you seen and heard and yet just don't care enough? Has your own experience with God been so shallow that you have nothing to give, no compassion for others?

Are you just an altar-Christian, one who at each revival, each youth camp, each retreat, year after year, weeps bitterly in remorse and returns to the same slothway ways? The king of wisdom once said, "The desire of the slothful killeth him for his hands refuse to labour." Christianity is more than just hanging on. In other words, no matter how much you may desire to:

make entrance to God's kingdom,
walk close to God,
be of service to others,
attain perfection,
communicate with God,
master His Word,
attain happiness,

just having those desires will NOT bring them to you on a "silver platter." You must long for them with all your being, be a "go-getter," ask, seek, strive, search, and pursue!

Listen closely, my young friend. Your 15 to 20 years of "accumulated wisdom" is no match against your 5900-year-old adversary; he, a two-faced master-mind of treacherous traps, has made YOU his business, if you're confidently resting, sweat and toil on his part will make you his property. Cling to God! Peter gives the specifics, "And beside this, giving all diligence add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge, and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; and to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful . . . for IF ye do these things, ye shall *never fall*."

Re-read the radical's letter—then dare yourself to ask . . .

Do I BELIEVE in God?

Am I as dedicated to God's cause as this man is to his cause?

Paul, Daniel and David were radicals of their day; they conformed to the "out group." Yet their testimonies don't at all give the impression that they led miserable or drab lives. To the contrary, David, a man who called God his "Exceeding Joy" confidently counsels: "Delight thyself in the Lord and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

Paul, a radical in every sense of the word, beseeches us as brethren to delight ourselves in the Lord by presenting our bodies a "living sacrifice," holy and acceptable unto God which is our reasonable service.

Time is ticking, present pleasures shall pass, your life, your only life is diminishing, one chance you have to fail.

Are you preparing?

The wrath of God shall come.

Are you preparing?

Tough trials are promised.

Are you preparing?

Few will stand.

Are you preparing?

A fading cry may call.

Are you preparing . . . ?

* * *

FYCers, the challenge is yours to prepare—become a radical for God—become an EVANGELLETTE.

A fresh EVANGELLETTE program has been designed—not a cinch program but one that will take some effort. Your chance to redeem yourself and prepare for greater service can begin January 1st. All information and new booklets will soon be in the mail to every FYCer. Next month AIM will introduce Standard I.

Faithful Youth Challengers, will you prepare?

EVANGELLETTE

Seven Stepping Stones to Greater Service

“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.”

TEEN GUIDELINES

(Continued from page 22)

plan my marriage and to send the person He has been preparing for me. It was well worth waiting for although it was very hard at times to wait.” (Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help . . .” [Psalm 146:5].)

This important prerequisite of Christians marrying Christians cannot be stressed enough. However, we must consider, too, that it is not enough just to find a Christian. Even Christians can have personality differences that make them incompatible as lifetime mates. But rather, one must consider all guidelines as set forth previously, and must seek always to “. . . prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God” (Romans 12:2).

CONTENTMENT

God’s perfect plan for your life will be made clear if you will “. . .

in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6), and “pray without ceasing” (1 Thess. 5:17). Then season your prayers with an extra helping of patience so that you may “. . . let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing” (James 1:4).

“Perfect”—“entire”—“wanting nothing”—for what more could one ask? God has a plan for you that would grant you this state of bliss. It is up to you to follow His plan—to seek His guidance—and to realize that “except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it . . .” (Psalm 127:1).

“Put God first”—“Wait upon the Lord”—“follow the guidelines of His Holy Scripture”—“distinguish between physical attraction and Godly love”—“place your choice in God’s hands” THEN let it be said of you—“THEY SHALL LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER!”

2T₄G - Take Time for God



By Martha Ling

“That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, and move, and have our being” (Acts 17:27, 28a).

This month we will be reading about the works of the various disciples of Jesus which show their faith and trust in the Saviour. The verses above are a quotation from Paul’s sermon on Mars’ hill. Even though Paul himself did not live with and serve Jesus during His ministry, he still learned of His great power and love for man, and took every opportunity to pass it on to others. Each of the apostles were doing this same thing in their own way during this period of time.

From Paul’s words here in Athens, we learn the great lesson of trust, although he did not put it that way in so many words. He tells us that God is not far from us, so that, if we search for Him, we will find Him. It is only through Him that we live.

One 2T₄Ger and his family found this so true recently. Soon after a tornado swept through Shawnee, Oklahoma, Dale Hendershott sent me this testimony along with his 2T₄G folder:

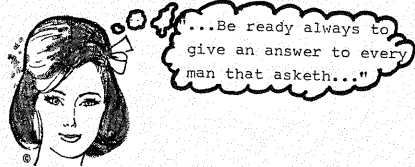
“God is love and I love Him. I ride my motorcycle to and from school and work, and I thank God for watching over me, and I pray that He will continue watching over me. But as I looked through the remains of that tornado, it really made me feel that God is the only One we can look to, to carry us through.”

Nov. 15	Acts 3
Nov. 16	Acts 4
Nov. 17	Acts 5
Nov. 18	Acts 6
Nov. 19	Acts 7
Nov. 20	Acts 8
Nov. 21	Acts 9
Nov. 22	Acts 10
Nov. 23	Acts 11
Nov. 24	Acts 12
Nov. 25	Acts 13
Nov. 26	Acts 14
Nov. 27	Acts 15
Nov. 28	Acts 16
Nov. 29	Acts 17
Nov. 30	Acts 18
Dec. 1	Acts 19
Dec. 2	Acts 20
Dec. 3	Acts 21
Dec. 4	Acts 22
Dec. 5	Acts 23
Dec. 6	Acts 24
Dec. 7	Acts 25
Dec. 8	Acts 26
Dec. 9	Acts 27
Dec. 10	Acts 28
Dec. 11	Rom. 1
Dec. 12	Rom. 2
Dec. 13	Rom. 3
Dec. 14	Rom. 4

Praise God for such a testimony, even in a time of trouble!

We are very happy to see how well the 2T4Gers are progressing! We have another FYCer completing a whole year in this program—John Lemley! Both Pat Jones and Jan Henderson have completed the 1st quarter of their 2nd year! Vicki Moldenhauer has only one quarter of a year left to complete her goal. There are several with six months completed: Dale Hendershott, Andy and Vencin Hassen. Ruby Renz and Marietta Duncan have completed three months.

I am looking forward to your report!



- Grow with God

by Michael D. Vlad

MINUTEMAN

SALVATION: SONS OF GOD

John 1:12

Galatians 4:4, 5

Galatians 3:26

Romans 6:20

Romans 8:14

Romans 8:16, 17

Philippians 2:15

1 Cor. 6:19, 20

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12).

After one has taken the initial steps to salvation and has followed the steps fully, he automatically becomes a child of God. Paul, in Galatians 2:12 emphatically said that there was a time when we were "... aliens from the commonwealth of Israel..."

In other words, "servants to sin" and not sons of God (Romans 6:20), but thank God that through the blood of Christ and with

the faith we have in Him, we are made **SONS AND DAUGHTERS**.

We have great comfort in knowing that we are children of God and will inherit eternal life. It is tragic that some people today will confirm that they do not know and will **NOT KNOW** until Christ comes if they have salvation and are children of God. Praise God we can and do know!

As sons and daughters of God, we may sometimes lose friends and popularity and feel that living a Christian life isn't worth it, but the benefits in the world to come are far greater than our weak minds can fathom! "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him" (1 Corinthians 2:9).

A PRAYER FOR YOUTH FROM THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

"Oh, God, we would that You guide the young people in their decisions while they are still young enough to pattern their lives in keeping with Your plan. May they ever depend upon You, as the Master Draftsman, to draw up the blueprints for them.

"God, we especially pray for Your leading in each life as young men and women choose a life's companion. Please grant that each will choose one with whom there can be complete and beautiful union of body and spirit.

"God, give young people the ability to discern between mere physical attraction and Godly love. The former is only short-lived, and the latter is a beautiful part of Your plan.

"God, please grant that young people will make choices of mates that will mean increased service to You. Only then can they realize the beauty of Your plan for their lives.

"God, help them to understand that their decision concerning marriage is one that will be permanent, and that it will affect their entire state of well being throughout their lives.

"God grant that young people everywhere will commit themselves completely into Your care and keeping in every phase of their lives, in every decision they must make, and especially as they choose their life's companion. Although we are so small and insignificant, we know that You love us enough to grant us these 'desires of our hearts,' especially for the young people of Your Church. Bless them, O Lord, we pray, in these important decisions. In Jesus' name. Amen."