

OCTOBER 1970

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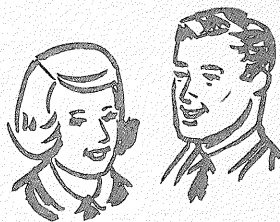
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Faithful Youth Challengers stand united to meet the challenge before them.

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—Boulder, Colorado

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Hope E. Dais, Editor

There is no road to success but through a clear, strong purpose. —Nothing can take its place. —A purpose underlies character, culture, position, attainment of every sort.

—T. T. MÜNGER

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BRADEN ACRES GRADE SCHOOL

"...In the Image of God"

by Martha Ling

Several years ago I read a short story in "Guidepost" which touched my heart. The title and the author have long since escaped my mind, but the message still lingers: "There is something of Christ in everyone—it's our duty to find it!"

How often have you played with a small baby, and thought how sweet and guileless he was as he smiled contentedly up at you? Some children grow up this same way, but others never seem to have a chance in their home environment. I know of a child (now three years of age) who was treated so maliciously that when taken from his mother at the age of three months he had several skull fractures, broken legs, arms, ribs, and brain damage. It would seem impossible to find any love in this child, and yet, when taken into a Christian home, it slowly responded to their love. They found a God-given love in the child.

We find that God made man "after the similitude of God" (James 3:9) or "in the image of God" (Genesis 9:6). Usually we consider this to be man's general form, but could it not also be our personality traits? Perhaps in your mother's eyes you can see the gentleness of Christ, or His charity in your father's forgiving attitude.

Even those who seemingly are thoroughly sinners must surely

have something left of this "similitude" to Christ, and it is because of this "hope" that Christians continue to seek and save the lost.

Too often, however, even Christians shun the presence of certain individuals who may seem "way out" to us because of their differences in dress, hair, etc. On the other hand, we will associate with so-called Christians who are actually like the Pharisees—only pretending to be Christians (Matt. 23:25). But is this Christlike? We must be careful lest we, too, are hypocritical in our attitudes toward others by ignoring them. Would Christ have nothing to do with sinners? No! Instead, He *knew* there was hope for them since they were made in His image; so He went to them, and saved them.

One example of Christ's teaching on this can be found in Luke 18. He had more sympathy for the all-out sinner—the Publican who had rejected the "Jewish establishment" to collect Roman taxes—because he was not hypocritical. He was honest with himself and with others. This may have been his only Godly trait, and yet Christ loved him and helped him. On the other hand, He had little pity for the Pharisee who strikingly resembles modern "Christians"—very faithful to God on the outside, but maybe not so on the inside. In fact, he was too busy praising his hypocritical ways to help the searching publican.

Jesus Himself ate with sinners—even in His own home

(Matthew 9:10; 11:19). Since He is our example, should we not be willing to do the same? This does not mean we uphold their ways, but instead only realize we cannot help them if we walk past them, figuratively speaking, with an upturned nose and a "no-touch" attitude! We must not enforce a caste system!

It is only when we stop being hypocritical Christians, and recognize sinners as human beings, building up their good (taken from God) traits, that they will accept us. Then, and only then, can we bring them to Christ and His ways.

Let's follow Paul's example: "Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing *both* to *small* and *great*, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come: That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, *and to the Gentiles*" (even the spiritual ones!) (Acts 26:22, 23).

TIME WILL SHOW

Youth may lend a pretty face,
But time will show each fault
Like allegorical designs
Carved on an old-world vault.
Deep inner grace in time shows
through,
For those who love their duty
Will find—or other people will—
That they increase in beauty.

—Alice Franklin Bryant in
Young People.

Tell Me, Please

QUESTION:

Where should young people go on a date?

ANSWER:

See your pastor about this, or drop me a line. It is difficult to make suggestions for every area. There are a few general principles to keep in mind.

Church is an excellent place to take a date. You may not think so offhand, but it has the advantage of bringing out the best in each other. It will find you thinking and doing more worth-while things. When you part after the evening's activities, you will feel cleaner and happier.

Also, consider activities that will satisfy your better selves, such as musical concerts (good music), and other media of dignified nature. These will mature you, enlighten you, and make you feel delightful together. When young people go on dates and carry on activities that are doubtful and demoralizing, they end up feeling miserable. If you do something worth-while, you and your date will like each other better, and you will feel the date has been valuable.

Youth Questions

answered by

Ray L. Straub



QUESTION:

Should young people of our church date young people who do not belong to the church?

ANSWER:

In numerous localities there would be no dating by our young people if they could not date someone outside the church. Occasional dating outside the church, though not ideal, must be expected. A youth would do well to keep his head and remember that under these circumstances, no serious courtship should develop until the matter of religious differences is resolved. If it cannot be resolved when interest in each other is new, it surely cannot be resolved more easily when the differences cause greater hurt.

Young people who have no other youth of their church to date should make special efforts to attend church events which bring our young people from various areas together, such as summer camps, camp meetings, church schools, etc. These offer excellent opportunity to meet others of their age group who are of the same Faith.

(Reprint from Dec. '65 AIM)



Dissent

John D. Jess

... there exists an ominous uneasiness on every campus

It is a self-evident fact, recognized by all who have access to the news media, that most of the agitation and revolt we are witnessing today originates on our college and university campuses. This is not to say that these insurgents represent the majority of young people attending institutions of higher learning. Most of the well-organized riots are the work of a radical minority. Still there exists an ominous uneasiness on every campus, and it is anyone's guess where the next demonstration of defiance will break out.

It would be trite to suggest there is a simple, or single, answer. Personally I think adult permissiveness is the greatest single cause, accompanied by the fact that most moral guidelines have been abandoned by the rank and file of the older generation. When young people indicate they are looking for a cause to espouse, for reality, for meaningfulness in life, they are really saying that their elders have let them down; that the society in which they have been reared—in spite of its affluency—is phoney and pharisaical. And the disturbing factor is that they are right. Facing the world adults have created

can be a disillusioning experience.

But we cannot rule out the lengthening roster of hyper-liberal professors, some of whom brazenly join their students in the provocative exhibitions. Someone has said that the average college student of today is "intelligently unhappy," and it is largely true. These are times when youth is bitterly disillusioned. Take the fact that the average student is no sooner seated in the college classroom than he is peppered with doubts triggered by cleverly-worded questions. He is told he must investigate everything through scientific eyes; that he

must take nothing for granted he has learned up to that point. As a result, many who began their higher education with faith in God and respect for the Bible, find their convictions eroding under a steady bombardment from the professorial chair. Eventually there comes a sense of relief as they squirm out from under the obligations of the Ten Commandments and the moral teachings of Jesus.

One coed recently put it this way: "The whole thing is that college students are confused about everything, and religion is one of them!" She added the hope that they would get it "straightened out." With many professors as confused as their students, who is going to do the straightening?

I think the campus riots, deplorable as they are, can be better understood in the light of the overwhelming disappointment our young people have suffered in a society dominated by materialism and the pursuit of superficial pleasure. In high school, young people are strongly suspicious that the world is in a mess; in college all doubt is removed! Many pastors, in their abandonment of the Bible, fail to provide spiritual answers. As a result, many of the demonstrators you see on your television screen are young people trying to rectify a social condition they find obnoxious and intolerable. They are not yet old and experienced enough to realize that you don't put a fire out by pouring gasoline on it!

What happens when these students espouse the so-called new morality and freedoms? Are they happy people who have found the answer to their deep personal needs in the scrapping of guidelines?

The fact that suicide is the leading

cause of death among college and university students should serve to emphasize the results of settling for an environment devoid of moral standards and restraints. The rule of the day is alcoholism... crime... drug addiction... promiscuity... revolt. Quite a commentary on a young generation that condemns its elders for lack of purpose!

Some leading sociologists frankly admit they see no hope of order emerging from the present chaos, at least in the lifetime of this generation. Even the more optimistic among them agree it will get worse before it gets better—that we have only begun to see the erosion of what we have been calling "civilization."

Is there an answer? The question fairly leaps from letters that come across my desk from heart-broken parents. It is repeated in letters written by young people whose sense of alienation often stems from the unwillingness of the older generation to admit a problem!

In the midst of all the questioning, searching and superficiality of our day, there exists reality! It's the same reality the early Christians knew amid the idolatry and political oppression of the first centuries—the reality of Christian faith that provides the only truly intelligent approach to life and its problems. Knowing God adds a glorious dimension unknown apart from Him.

I have found it to be so. My earnest prayer is that young people, searching... thrashing at life... hungry for reality... looking for a cause... may become acquainted with Jesus Christ. Who said, "I am come that they might have LIFE... more abundantly!" (John 10:10).

—Chapel of the Air

“When ye see these things come to pass . . .”

by Faith Ling

With just a wink of the eye, you and I can see that prophecies are being fulfilled on every hand.



The other night I had a dream relating to a Bible prophecy yet to be fulfilled. It is spoken by the Old Testament prophet in Joel 2:28-31. Christ spoke of it in Luke 21:25-28, the Apostle Paul in Acts 2:16-20. Again it is described in Rev. 6:12-17. I suggest you read these before continuing here.

In this dream everyone's attention was drawn toward the moon. As we gazed skyward, strange movements were seen on the moon. Several small explosions could be seen. They became bigger. Then, very suddenly, the whole moon burst!

“The moon exploded!” was the exclamation heard all around as people looked at each other in amazement. Big melted heaps of liquid fell as fire down over the horizon. When the last bit had finally disappeared, we looked up again, wondering if the moon would be there at all. It *was* there, a huge, round ball that looked like blood! Immediately I remembered the Bible prophecy concerning this. “That means Jesus will be coming soon!” I suddenly realized. It was exciting!

As my dream continued, I was walking along the sidewalk taking a little girl to her home. Two cars came slowly around the corner, the drivers with anxious, worried looks on their faces. Both cars had their front doors open, the reason being that the oxygen content in the air was low. There was a weird, penetrating smell as a result of the moon explosion. Then a Christian friend came around the corner. He smiled and waved. *His* car doors were all closed! Then I remembered having previously driven *my* car with the doors closed also! I felt the wonderful realization that God was caring for His own during this time of trouble.

The next thing I remember I was in my apartment talking to someone. By this time, every one was in his own home again. Some of the thoughts I remember expressing concerned the hope that we wouldn't have to starve.

That would be an awful thing, I thought. I expressed an intense hope that I could be strong enough spiritually to see it through—if such a thing should come about in this way. . . . Then another thought came to me—A great persecution may be coming! What things will I have to suffer? and OHH, how I hope I can be strong enough to see it through. I was thinking deeply of how I hoped I could endure as a Christian.

Then all was “safe” again. I found myself running all over, telling the lost and ignorant that Jesus is coming again real soon and to be ready, telling them that the moon's looking like blood was a sign of His soon return, and using the verses found in 2 Tim. 3:1-4: “This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, . . . lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God.” I ran to find an old roommate of mine—to question her . . . and then I saw what she was doing . . . she was looking back through her old Searchlight Bible Correspondence sheets to find what she had read about the moon's turning to blood, etc.

I ran on and found some girls I had gone to high school with, so that

I could tell them what they must do to prepare for the very soon coming of Jesus. HOW I hoped they would all be saved!

Then I awakened. As I thought over the dream, it was just barely beginning to dawn outside. A tear crept down each cheek. I thanked God for such a meaningful dream. I was blessed in such a special way by this dream that I wanted to share it with others. I especially felt touched to tell others about the gospel as I had done in my dream. I was moved to tears by the compassion I felt at that moment. The chorus of the song, “The Message of His Coming,” kept going through my mind . . . “Gladly may we herald the message of His blessed appearing, Soon He's coming in glory, tell to one and all! Then awake, ye saints of the Lord, why slumber when the end is nearing. But get ready for the final call.”

I wish it were possible to somehow convey to you and to others the *urgency* that I felt during this experience. It is evident that the Spirit of the Lord has been working with our youth in no small way. Today is the crucial time in which we must help the lost to find that one blessed path to everlasting life.

“ . . . We are so utterly ordinary, so commonplace, while we profess to know a Power the Twentieth Century does not reckon with. But we are ‘harmless,’ and therefore unharmed. We are spiritual pacifists, non-militants, conscientious objectors in this battle-to-the-death with principalities and powers in high places. Meekness must be had for contact with men, but brass, outspoken boldness is required to take part in the comradeship of the Cross. We are ‘sideliners’—coaching and criticizing the real wrestlers while content to sit by and leave the enemies of God unchallenged. The world cannot hate us, we are too much like its own. Oh that God would make us dangerous!”—Jim Elliot

Message from Prison

to Youth

by Harvey L. Earl

Notwithstanding the rather biased view of the public media toward youth of today, I see hope for those youngsters who are confused and anxious, who are groping toward the pinnacle of better days. Youth of today will become tomorrow's leaders, entrusted with the sober responsibilities of this great democracy. It has been my privilege to talk with some of these youngsters who, by force of circumstance, found themselves enmeshed in the toils of the law and imprisoned.

Not only have these youngsters faced the prospect of loneliness for what seemed to them interminable time, but many have told me of their efforts to adjust to the pressures of outside problems, such as marrying when quite young. In a sense, they have a dual problem, finding themselves and understanding the other person's point of view. To these, I have recommended consultation with that great Book of all ages, The Holy Bible.

I assured doubting ones that they would find both comfort and solutions in the wisdom of Christ's philosophy. The Psalms, for instance, had meaning to these oppressed and, once understood, offered serenity to bear with the trials of imprisonment and personal worries.

One very special friend en-

couraged me to read daily the Word of God, to believe that the darkest cloud can have a silver lining and to cherish all that is good.

It was amazing how eagerly some of the youngsters listened to my personal experience. I tell all youngsters that it's better to cultivate a friend than to have a "blast while it lasts." Sustained by the Word of God, one can easily make friends. I encouraged young people to seek first an affinity with their Creator, then be true to any adult or personal friend and reward will follow.

If one will close the communication gap between self and a wise God, that person will find the strength to carry on in any situation. For He hath said, "I am the light of the world,"—hence there can be no darkness.

John Wesley once had a disagreement with Joseph Bradford, a traveling companion. They retired for the night, nursing their differences and each feeling that the other was to blame. In the morning Wesley asked Bradford if he had considered during the night their agreement to part.

"And must we part?" inquired Wesley.

"Please yourself, sir," said Bradford grimly.

"But will you not ask my pardon?" demanded Wesley.

"No, sir."

"In that case," said Wesley, "I must ask yours."

This came entirely unexpectedly to Bradford. He was melted to tears, and their friendship was cemented more closely than ever before. —Selected

"Evangelette"

These testimonies were submitted to AIM several months ago. We are sorry they were misplaced in our files. However we know they will be as much of an inspiration now as then. If you are interested in joining the Evangelette Program, write to Sheryl Youngs, Stanberry, Missouri 64489. She is the new director.

Valerie Kester



I really thank God for giving me the opportunity to take part in the Evangelette Program. It really helps my spiritual life a lot. It makes me realize that doing things for God is wonderful and gives me a lot more satisfaction than things of the world. God is really great and

He is with me wherever I go. I know that without Him I could do nothing. In Evangelette we have a chance to do something for God. Also it helps us to draw closer to Him.

* * *

Rachel Kester



I really like the Evangelette Program. It has helped me a lot. By taking it and 2T4G, I've gained a desire to try harder to please God. Reading and praying every day helps me to keep in touch with God. This program is also good because it helps me to learn the scriptures. I really receive a blessing from it.

From Across the Seas

Testimony from a Hindu who is Seeking Christ

John Lemley, foreign correspondent, writes . . .

In addition to working with FYCs in other lands I also have the opportunity to help individuals. I now introduce you to Gangaram Rameshwar in Trinidad. His testimony is as follows:



"I was born in an orthodox Hindu home where image worship is done. I do not worship images, I pray to God and God alone. God is supreme and there is none equal to Him nor above Him.

"I was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi to study the Holy Bible. Gandhi saw in Jesus one of the greatest teachers the world has ever produced. When he visited Suffna College in 1927 he told the students, consisting of 75% Hindus, that their education would be incomplete unless they also studied the teachings of Jesus. Having read this I decided to delve into the Holy Bible.

"I started the Bible Course with Searchlight in 1966 and just completed it. All these lessons have been very interesting and inspiring. I hope this will be the beginning and not the end of my Bible studies."

And he didn't stop studying either. In a later letter he wrote: "I understand that Christmas is not really the birthday of Jesus Christ, but the nativity of the sun. The false church adopted December 25 as the birthday of Jesus since that is when many pagans had a festival in honour of the sun.

"I also understand that Easter is pagan in origin. Jesus was not crucified on Friday and resurrected on Sunday. Jesus fulfilled His own sign. What a pity that He had to die so young. If He had lived to about 80 the history of mankind might have taken a different turn. The spirit of the Sermon on the Mount competes almost on equal terms with the Bhagavad-Gita (the Hindu Bible) for the domination of my heart. Both Gandhi and Jesus went all-out to correct social wrongs. So, in my opinion, had Christ lived on, God would not have sent Gandhi. But God was eager to recall Christ, and after 1800 years God sent Gandhi to reassure the ambassadors of peace that Jesus would

be coming again. The late Martin Luther King once said that Jesus Christ furnished the Gospel and Gandhi showed how it worked.

"From what I have read and understand, Christianity and Hinduism are very similar. Christianity is based on truth, love, and non-violence and is named after Christ while Hinduism is also based on these three and has no founder. I love Hinduism with all my heart and my life is being enriched by my contacts with Christianity. I love to read the Holy Bible."

(In his latest letter there is a thread of hope and appeal for our prayers. Please pray often for him that he will yield to the leading of the Holy Spirit and reject all forms of paganism.)

"I sincerely believe that Jesus is admiring me very much and is blessing me because I am further delving into the Bible in search of truth, understanding, and wisdom. There is a doubt in my mind that is haunting me night and day. Yes, I doubt very much that Christ died on the cross. Please pray for me."

Your Hindu brother,
Gangaram Rameshwar

. . . FROM A TEENAGER IN THE PHILIPPINES

God's Protection

By Nena Espiritu

Does God protect us? Does God care for us? Is there any living God? Does God love us? How and in what way? These are the questions of those who have no faith in the power of the living God.

One time I was left alone in the house because my parents, sisters, and brothers were in the farm house. As I looked out of the window, it became darker and darker. Those dark clouds were a sign of the coming rain. The wind blew harder and when the clouds could no longer hold the water vapor, it fell. It fell so rapidly. Oh! I was so afraid! My father and mother had not yet returned. I strengthened myself, and in order to overcome my fearful situation, I went

to the bookcase. I selected the Book that is very dear to me—the Bible.

As I held my Bible I found a good and nourishing story for my fear. There was no longer any reason that I should be afraid. Do you know the story which I read in the Bible? It was the story of the three brave Hebrews.

I read of the three young Hebrews who were captured by King Nebuchadnezzar. When these young men were brought before the king and ordered to bow in worship to the image, they refused to obey. "No, King Nebuchadnezzar, we cannot bow down to your image because we believe the only one God, the true

(Continued on page 33)

Seizing Our Opportunities

By Kathy Patchen

Everyone knows what an example is. And, whether we realize it or not, each one of us is a living example to those who know us, and even to just casual acquaintances.

A small child watches his parents and then tries to mimic them. This aids him in learning to walk, to eat, to talk, and all the hundreds of little things that later become habits. If, as the child grows, he observes members of the family stealing, lying, being difficult to get along with, he will naturally follow in this line. Even actions thought to be insignificant, such as sneaking a napkin or piece of silverware from some restaurant to be kept as a souvenir, can build up a child's mind and cause him to be a thief as an adult. People are more and more beginning to see how their actions can affect their child's attitude toward life, and consequently, are trying to set a good example for them.

Children are not the only ones who learn by example. Every teenager and every adult looks to others to help him make decisions. Decisions such as: *Where is the best place to spend a vacation? Which brand name will*

give what is expected of the product? What in the world should be worn to a particular social function? But much more important than this is: *How should we act and what should our attitude be toward a given situation?* We try to conform as much as possible to the group we are with. At a time like this, they have become our examples of acceptable behavior. There is nothing wrong with following the crowd as long as we continue to exercise our own good judgment in determining what is proper and what is not proper. The problem is that many are not able to make this decision for themselves. They are blind followers, and if for no other reason than this, we must watch what we do (the example that we set for them) because we may be the cause of their failure in coming to Christ and living a full Christian life.

Let's consider the non-Christian. What can we do to help lead him to Christ? We can pray to God to guide us in whatever we say or do when we are around this person. We can make him our friend and let him know by the way we talk

(Continued on page 31)

Leadership Retreat

Flashback !!

by Carolyn Clements

"Are you *sure* this is the street?"
"Hey, let *me* see those directions!"
"Let's ask at this service station. Ouch! Get off my foot!"
"What if *everybody* gets lost?"
"It's almost six o'clock and I'm starved!"
"We'll be lucky if we even make it in time for the service!"

* * *

"Yeah, I think the road we want is back a couple miles."

* * *

"Here it is! Shouldn't be long now—talk about wandering in the wilderness!"

"This retreat must really be out in the sticks!"

"Ouch, my ears popped."

"Mine, too—and all those curves are making me dizzy!"

"Look over there! I bet it's on top of that mountain."

"Uh, huh, I see something in the trees. That might be it."

Clunk! "Oooooooh—I hope I still have a muffler left. Whoever found this place anyway?!"

* * *

"Here we are now! Look, there's Mike! And Tom's here, too!"
"Where do I park?"
"... I just can't believe I'm really here!!"

* * *

YES, HARD TO BELIEVE, YET ... THE END OF A DREAM, THE BEGINNING OF REALITY: THE FIRST NATIONAL FYC LEADERSHIP CONVENTION!

* * *

I squeezed a hand thrust in at me through the window and waved to another old friend.

"Come on, hurry up! Let me out!" Squeals, shouts, laughter. Even a few tears. Elated bedlam!

Finally we remembered to look the place over.

"Where's the rest of the camp?"

"Ha! ... This is it!"

"This is all there is to it?"

"Yup."

"What's that? Dining hall or auditorium?"

"Both."

"Well, at least we can eat—but where do we sleep?!"

"Oh, the girls are above the kitchen and the boys are staying in those cabins up the hill."

"But I only saw two or three!"

"Well, that's it."

"Uh . . . do I dare ask about the . . . facilities?"

"What facilities?!"

"You don't mean . . ."

"Yeah, would you believe two showers, one sink and no mirrors for the guys?! Same for the girls!"

"Ohhhhhhh, noooooooo. . . ."

"And the . . .?"

"See that little wooden house up on the hill? There's another one over there in the trees."

"You've gotta be kiddin'!"

"Nope."

"By the way, how many does this camp hold?"

"Well, the most they've ever had

is 45, but they say it'll hold up to 75."

"So how many kids are here?"

"A hundred!"

"Well then, why are we wasting time talking?! Let's grab a bed!"

* * *

I dumped a few things on one of the last remaining beds, clanked down the steps and headed in the direction of food. It was a relief to know I wouldn't starve after all. But halfway to the line they caught me! "We need another poster for . . ." I knew this was only the beginning of the exciting days to follow!

* * *

Sleeping late was impossible for the girls! Traces of pancakes, eggs and

oatmeal seeped up through the floorboards, along with Brother Don Lawson's morning serenades.

Maybe it was anticipation for each day's events that woke us all, for there was far too much of interest and importance going on for even the laziest to sleep in! And some of the most precious moments came in that early hour before breakfast when a few young people slipped away unnoticed to find a cool rock overlooking the valley where they could sit alone in the warm sun and just think. For there was much to ponder; decisions, resolutions, surrenders to be made. Direction to be sought.

It was good to be with God in the still, fresh morning, to read His message with new eyes and to quietly talk business. And when happiness would not be silent, soft music drifted back to camp. Curious chipmunks and hummingbirds came to investigate. To lean back against rough hardness, with closed eyes, and try to grasp all the great new things happening to young people all over the country . . . impossible! Thrilling!!

How so much could happen in three days still amazes me!

Laughs were not lacking! Several—including the National FYC chairman himself!—found themselves, amid much shouting and struggling, spluttering in an old watering trough!

During brief rain showers, many played games in the main hall or sang around the piano. Volleyball and some exciting softball prevailed at the return of sunshine. Everyone enjoyed the fun!

But something exciting happened *inside*, a real joy welled up when young people started requesting recreation to be cancelled for workshops.

Never has any gathering been of so much practical value to the leaders of youth! Never has there been opportunity like this to hash out national programs, their purposes, problems and effectiveness! And never have young people from every direction been able to share local problems and solutions, to inspire each other with new ideas and enthusiasm! On at least one occasion one hundred representatives sat on the edge of their rock chairs for *three hours without a break—and didn't realize it!! They wanted more!*

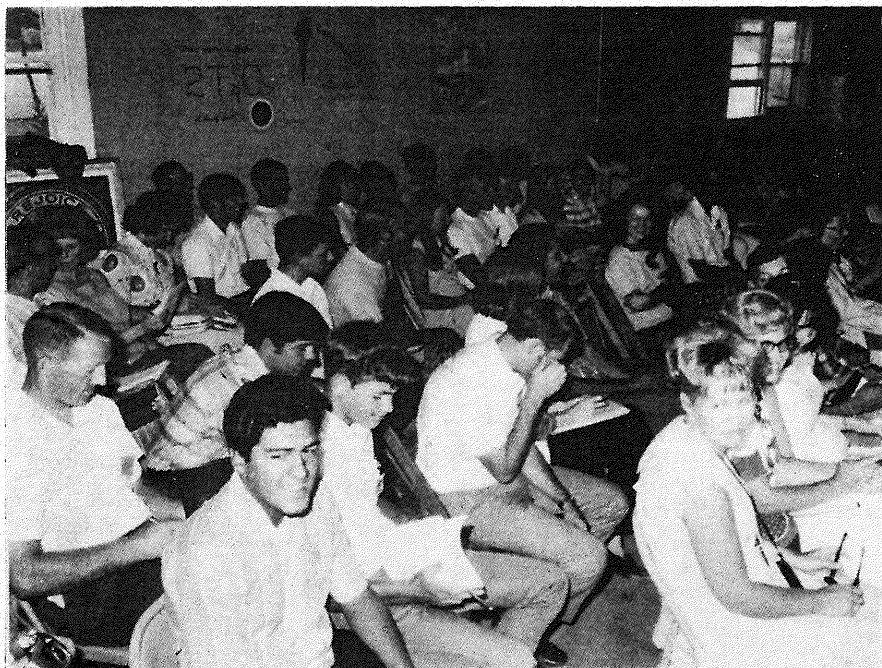
National and Leadership Committee meetings revealed tremendous strides in progress and unity (despite that patriotic Texas delegation who insisted upon displaying their own flag!)

NATIONAL FYC LEADERSHIP CONVENTION WAS THE GREAT-EST THING THAT HAS EVER HAPPENED TO YOUNG PEOPLE! BUT STILL GREATER THINGS LIE AHEAD! THEY ARE INEVITABLE!

Here are the reasons why:

Sabbath morning, following the messages on youth in service, small groups of young people, each accompanied by a National or Leadership committeeman, quietly wandered out among the rocks in the fields and into the woods. There they solemnly told God they really meant business. They shared burdens and problems and prayed together about each one. "To be used of God: to sing, to speak, to pray. To be used of God: to show some one the way. I long so much to feel the touch of His consuming power; to be used of God is my desire."

Deeper than surface emotion ran a mighty current of determination to carry out the commission of a *faith-*



Time after time, 100 enthusiastic FYCers returned for programs and workshops.

ful youth challenger. From the depths of souls emanated the quiet and powerful decisions to give all for the cause of Christ.

God has gripped the hearts of His youth leaders. He has planted within them an unequalled vision that the church has never before experienced!

During the closing prayer of a program which dealt with church unity—supposedly a simple workshop—soft sobs broke out; hearts had been touched with the urgency of the need for pure unity and with frank exposure to the subtle, destructive power of complacency. The next moment, at a mere invitation to meet at Inspiration Point for prayer, the group as a body surged out of the building to meet with a common weight—the burden of unification. There was something very special about that prayer meeting as young people lingered as though compelled by an inner compulsion to find special strength to fortify the determination felt at that moment.

To accomplish our mission we must be united. The wreckage of division has not been obscure nor is it yet forgotten. Christ said that He and His people *are one*. Factions equal failure. How many unnecessary tears self-surrender would eliminate!

Personal dedication, a sure faith, unequalled vision, and a prayerful yearning for the unity of God's church—add to these the burden for lost and searching souls and you see that greater things *are inevitable*.

The last service came too soon. Sauntering through the long, pale grass to Inspiration Point, I watched the cities of Boulder and Denver light up the plain below. Never had the atmosphere been so clear, the red, green, orange, blue and white lights of the

metropolises so distinct! As we climbed the stony path that twisted through the evergreens, twilight lingered. Then, suddenly, it settled deeper... and disappeared, Myriad stars studded the velvet sky like sharp points of shattered steel.

Faint winds sought to dry the tears that came while watching the living silhouettes of youth workers, people I love, people God loves, but people whom the world might hate as they go forth to turn it upside down. From somewhere behind us came tones of God's reassuring message:

"When the world seems cold and your friends seem few,

There is Someone who cares for you.
When you've tears in your eyes; your heart bleeds inside,

There is Someone who cares for you.
When your disappointments come and you feel so blue...

Someone to care, Someone to share
All your troubles like no other can do.
He'll look down from the sky
And brush the tears from your eyes.
You're His child and He cares for you."

Through the gnarled branches of a dwarfish mountain pine I saw that hollow blackness had swallowed the grassy field below. The dark mountain wall to the right slid down into hill ranges now merged into one rolling barrier. And beyond that barrier lay the souls of thousands of people. Two dazzling cities on a broad plain... "and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction... But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day

that Noe entered into the ark, And knew not until the flood came and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

From the rocks around me echoed the drifting melody of a solitary flute. Memory flung back the message as the clear notes glided on:

"SO SEND I YOU TO BIND THE
BRUISED AND BROKEN,
O'ER WAND'RING SOULS TO
WORK, TO WEEP, TO WAKE,
TO BEAR THE BURDENS OF A
WORLD AWEARY—
SO SEND I YOU TO SUFFER FOR
MY SAKE
SO SEND I YOU TO LEAVE YOUR
LIFE'S AMBITION,
TO DIE TO DEAR DESIRE, SELF-
WILL RESIGN
TO LABOR LONG, AND LOVE
WHERE MEN REVILE YOU—
SO SEND I YOU TO LOSE YOUR
LIFE IN MINE.
AS THE FATHER HATH SENT
ME, SO SEND I YOU."

Acrid pine oil pierced my nostrils as impatient fingers crushed the handful of needles in my fist. Nature's night song rose from a whisper to a murmur to a chant: "I MUST WORK THE WORKS OF HIM THAT SENT ME, WHILE IT IS DAY: THE NIGHT COMETH, WHEN NO MAN CAN WORK."

Then came the voice of the chairman of the youth department, reading the words of Christ: "For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be."

Simultaneously, a solitary streak of lightning tore the clouds above the plain silhouetting the speaker's head as though staged by the Master Pro-

ducer to impress upon our minds the reality of that promise for "... so shall the coming of the Son of Man be."

AN FYCER said . . .

You have to be enthusiastic, meek, humble, prayerful, dedicated, unselfish with time and self, forgiving, and loving to serve the Lord our God. These qualities are often neglected; not all at once, but one or two at a time.

National Leadership Retreat brought out every one of these qualities and made each individual once again aware of the great need to be diligent in all of them.

We used our time serving God, not man and his world.

As we looked down at night toward Boulder and Denver, Colorado, from Inspiration Point, we took notice of the man-made beauty in the form of the lighted cities. Then suddenly a cold chill went through our bodies as Elder Kenneth Lawson remarked that the sight is really ugly to behold when we think of the lost below basking in their worldliness.

It was at that point that I knew my place wasn't up on some mountain, isolated with God, but down there—off that mountain top gathering all the lost I could and saving them from the end that will put a stop to man's beauty and to man's world.

It was here I realized that no longer could I continue as just a member of the Church of God (7th Day), the church that has the truth and needs young blood to get the message rolling.

Musical numbers seemed especially inspiring and meaningful at Leadership Retreat. Shown here are Jim Fischer, Debbie Davis, Loren Stacey, Rita Fischer, and Bob Dais.



No longer can we, the youth, be the church of tomorrow, but we have to be the church TODAY and NOW.

It's up to us! All of those that attended Retreat had our fires rekindled, just by being able to think of what we possess and what our duty is as Christians and as members of the true church.

Retreat was a blessing within a blessing, meaning I cannot put into words what the Retreat did for individuals and F.Y.C. groups throughout the nation.

Everyone that truly has the desire to have their fires rekindled needed to attend this retreat.

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world..." (Matthew 28:19-20). Je-

sus gave this command to His disciples. Can anyone claiming to be a Christian and a disciple of Christ do any less?

Steve Kurtright

A Leadership Committeeman said:

From beginning to end, the National Youth Leadership Retreat was a great success in every way. One cannot comprehend the beauty of the setting as the valley below the mountainside was viewed in all its splendor. We were constantly reminded of God's great and wonderful creation as we sat on the natural rocks and sang praises to God. Great inspiration was ours as each meeting seemed only to bring us closer to God and to each other.

I counted it a great privilege to be among those attending this Retreat and feel it will strengthen all of us in our desire to be of greater service to God in our work with the young people. —Gladys McCoy

A Peek into the ...

Director's Diary

FRIDAY—AUGUST 21

- 3:00 PM—Camp full and young people still streaming in. Two big carloads expected from southern California. Wondering what to do... Slight drizzle caused me some concern.
- 3:30 PM—Made effort to appease some complaining about the lack of facilities or the primitiveness of facilities available.
- 4:00 PM—Contacted owner of camp and arranged for purchase of fifteen more air mattresses. We already had two dozen of them.
- 4:15 PM—Checked in with Jewell at the registration table. Eighty registrants? Impossible! California young people still not in.
- 4:45 PM—Solicited help from campers to move all beds closer together so air mattresses could be placed on floors. Girls' dorm became one solid mass of beds.
- 6:00 PM—First meal. Hope the cooks prepared enough food.
- 7:00 PM—Meal over. The cooks had cooked for fifty. They fed eighty with two baskets left over. Discovered some young people from Texas had come without blankets. Cold and drizzling so called Denver and asked for more blankets. Also asked Elder Caswell to bring moving van to use for sleeping quarters. I hope nobody throws me over a bluff.
- 7:30 PM—National and Leadership Committees met out on Inspiration Rock for a special prayer in behalf of the convention. Thrilled to see the committees together. God's presence was definitely felt.
- 8:00 PM—California young people in and settled. Banners and posters all up. Ken Lawson and Ken Moldenhauer working on getting our colored lights up. Felt sorry for Pat Jones (women's accommodations) and Nathan Lawson (men's accommodations). Checked registration. Ninety-five young people! This is unbelievable... but tremendous. Just hope we will be able to keep things organized and young people happy.
- 8:05 PM—Asked Bob Dais and a group of fellows to move into a tent. Rain just a little discouraging.
- 8:30 PM—Ninety young people in their chairs waiting for opening of the convention. National FYC theme song, "We Are Faithful Youth Challengers" followed by a good chorus session was especially

resounding and beautiful. Noticed spotlighting with the colored lights graced the meeting hall atmosphere and accented the flickering light coming from the fireplace. The posters and banners look great. Jeff and Kathy Leach and Carolyn Clements must be given a special thank you.

9:00 PM—Elder Melvin Sweet (speaker for the opening service of the convention) spoke on our theme, "Build For Eternity in 1970." His stirring message was preceded by Pat's singing "Win the Lost." Her song brought home an important message.

10:30 PM—Bonnie Asher of Marion, Iowa, arrived and became registrant number one-hundred. Thirty more young people than expected! Praise God!

SABBATH—AUGUST 22

9:30 AM—Lectured on "Youth and Service." Gave Biblical example of youth who served, and stressed importance of finding a place to serve. Gave examples of ways young people could serve in the Church. The young people seemed to be deeply interested in finding ways and places to serve. Still rainy and cool.

11:00 AM—"Dedication of Youth" sermon given by Elder Nathan Lawson. The application of Solomon's request for wisdom was especially striking to me and I hope to the FYC leaders also. Stress was given to putting God first if we are to be successful in FYC work or any service to God.

Heard the "Jim Fischer" Quartet Sing.

12:00 Noon—Following sermon on dedication, FYCers divided into about 20 groups of four-to-six young people. The scene of these groups' slipping away into the woods for prayers of special dedication to God and His work was very impressive. Each group was under the direction of one of the members of the Leadership Committee.

Sounds of young people singing and praying drifted up through the jack pines and I'm sure they didn't stop there.

2:30 PM—Texas FYCers, as pre-arranged, had organized a fine rally entitled "These Things Are Ours" and it was presented under the direction of Elder Kenneth Knoll. Elder Ken Lawson delivered a very inspiring sermonette.

3:30 PM—First convention worship—Discussion on FYC Rallies and Young People's Meetings. Jerry Moldenhauer did a good job in his presentation and led a lively question-answer session afterward. I hope the young people noticed the difference between young people's meetings and youth rallies and that they will plan to have both in their FYC work at home. I noticed most of the young people rapidly taking notes. If participation by the young people is indicative of what is to come, this convention stands to be one of the most outstanding and beneficial meetings ever held in the Church of God.

6:00 PM—Noticed efficiency with which Jim Fischer and Will McGill changed our small meeting hall into a dining hall.

7:00 PM—Young people gathered on Inspiration Rock overlooking Denver from a three-thousand-foot higher elevation. What a time of inspiration. God blessed again and again.

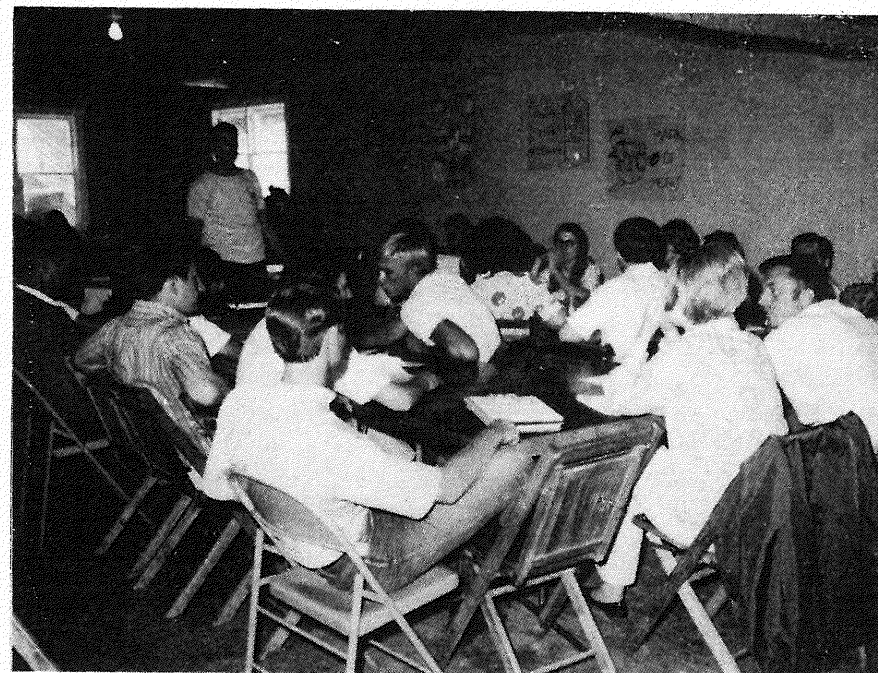
8:00 PM—Wondering how to inspire the cooperation of one-hundred plus young people to be at all the workshops right on time. So much to cover in three short days. Business is always a chore too.

8:15 PM—Hurried to the meeting place to have the pianist play a prelude for fifteen minutes so young people would come into the building on time. Walked through the door and saw one-hundred young people quietly waiting for workshop to start.

8:30 PM—Lively chorus session. AIM workshop conducted by Hope Dais and Jewell Linville. Such lively question and answer period has never been witnessed by me. Young people freely made suggestions for improving AIM. Basically they described it as being a great magazine with improvement being needed in some minor areas. AIM staff will need to study notes from that session.

10:00 PM—Conducted a ten-minute devotional on the dangers of complacency.

11:00 PM—Received complaints from several young people because we had



Much valuable planning was accomplished at the meetings of the Leadership and National Committees.

allowed time for recreation on Sunday and Monday. One group stated that they had come to better prepare themselves for the Lord's work.

11:30 PM—Moved into the moving van for my sleeping quarters. Elder Caswell shared those lavish quarters.

SUNDAY—AUGUST 23

9:30 AM—Preparing for workshop to be held at 10:15. Had to miss 9:30 devotional under the direction of Elder Kenneth Knoll. Sorry, but nothing else seemed possible. Devotional was conducted out on Inspiration Rock again.

10:15 AM—Conducted workshop on National FYC work, plans, projects, etc. Young people had many questions. They seemed excited about plans for the future such as departmental financing, coming General Conference program (four-hundred young people expected), four-year cycle for major national projects such as Conference and district tours, national leadership convention, and national tours. Enthusiasm seemed to run high.

11:55 AM—Daniel Davila gave a tremendous report on FYC work among Spanish-speaking peoples. The churches in Mexico are interested in organizing their young people into FYC groups. Translation of materials of the FYC Department here in the USA is under consideration.

12:30 PM—Rain dampened the earth but not the spirits of the young people.

2:00 PM—Meeting of the National and Leadership Committees in joint session. What a rewarding sight to see those youth workers planning together. Discussion of responsibilities was profitable. Worked on Church assignments for the Leadership Committee. A most inspiring meeting and one that should send the work forward by leaps and bounds. Some young people enjoyed some interesting indoor games while others braved the weather for a game of volley ball.

4:30 PM—Another lively and inspiring chorus session. Such harmony! God seemed so close. Steve Kurtright gave a stirring, half-hour testimony just preceding a workshop on Church Unity conducted by Elder Nathan Lawson. Such a clear, marvelous picture from the Bible stirred the entire group.

6:00 PM—After the workshop, about fifty young people gathered on Inspiration Rock to spend time in prayer for continued (and additional) unity in the Church of God. The Church is united essentially in doctrine and Spirit. These young people are burdened for others who have not found that unity. I have never heard more heartfelt, sincere prayers than came from the lips of those young people kneeling there among the rocks that day. This seems to me to be the most inspiring program up to this point in the convention.

7:30 PM—Workshops presented by program directors for Mark of Merit, Evangelette, and Minuteman programs. Carolyn Clements stood

in for Martha Ling in the 2T4G program. What a workshop! I heard young people saying "the best meeting yet." Sheryl Youngs would have made a good preacher if she had been a fellow.

John Lemley closed the workshop with an exciting report on his foreign correspondence work.

TEN-THIRTY PM? Why, these young people have been sitting for three hours without a break and without a sign of restlessness. I wouldn't have let it happen but I didn't know it was happening. AMAZING! Wouldn't our elders be inspired to see such interest!

10:30 PM—Short devotional to conclude the evening's activities. Oh, such inspiring singing . . .

MONDAY—AUGUST 24

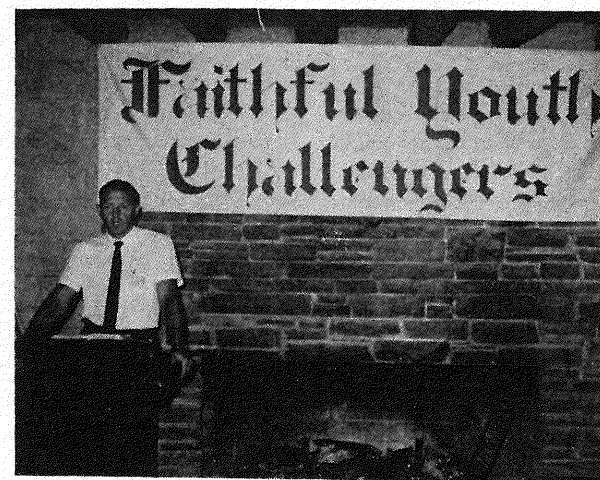
7:00 AM—Last day of convention. Noticed clearing skies. Promises of being a beautiful day.

9:30 AM—Out on Inspiration Rock again! Elder Calvin Burrell held devotional, speaking about "Priorities." Very thought-provoking. "What are my own priorities?"

10:15 AM—Time for workshop. Surely I will have to get the young people in to start the meeting. Wrong again. I was just about the last one there. Local FYC leaders presented the workshop giving testimonies to the reasons for success in their own FYC groups' work. Ken Moldenhauer, Harrisburg, Oregon, Jim Fischer, Eureka, South Dakota, Oscar Davila, Corpus Christi, Texas, and Jerry Moldenhauer for the Texas state FYC program. Excellent workshop. A most inspiring report was Oscar's testimony about the hurricane's sparing homes of Church of God families while the houses of those all around were destroyed. Praise God for His protection of His people. I concluded the workshop with a mention of the

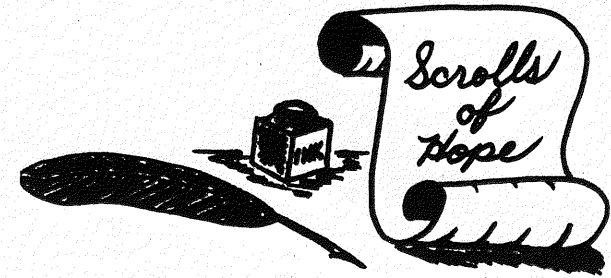
Elder Nathan Lawson's words on Youth Dedication on Sabbath morning were a real challenge to young people.

Another outstanding program in which God used Elder Lawson to inspire the young people was the one on unity.



need for YOUTH EVANGELISM by and for the local FYC groups.

- 1:30 PM—Everybody in cars! Two softball games to be played at a high school athletic field in Boulder. Humiliation! My team suffered defeat by the score of 7 to 11. Nathan and Ken Lawson should have done better. Ken got a bad charley horse . . . Must be why we lost! My age? . . . Oh, well!
- 3:50 PM—Passed a super slide on the way to camp. Couldn't resist! Larry Marrs won the race down but I am sure that I went the highest into the air over one of the humps. Hope, Jewell, and Carolyn screamed all the way down..
Total time from turning off highway to try the super slide until return to the highway—4 minutes.
- 4:15 PM—Conducted workshop on National and Local FYC financing. Many questions, suggestions, etc. Very profitable workshop.
- 5:30 PM—Ken Lawson and I dunked Jim Fischer in the horse-watering trough. Oooh, how did I get in here. Shoes, wallet, tonsils,—all wet. Ken L. not much better off. "Put everyone in the trough." Nathan Lawson (couldn't catch him), Jerry Moldenhauer (ah . . .), Bob Dais (nope).
- 6:30 PM—Jerry Moldenhauer confessed that he pushed me in but made it clear he wouldn't have confessed if he hadn't already gotten wet. Just goes to show "You can't do wrong and get by."
- 7:15 PM—Almost time for the last workshop of the convention. Even for this last workshop, the young people seemed to be eagerly awaiting its start just as they had for the very first one.
- 7:30 PM—The workshop was used to finish up any previous workshop's topics. AIM Magazine, Youth Evangelism, Rallies and Young People's Meetings, an open question session, all jammed into one workshop. Enthusiasm of young people seemed extremely high.
- 10:00 PM—Conducted concluding devotional and remarks out on Inspiration Rock. The theme was "The Second Coming of Christ." Young People thrilled to the rich, full voices of the male quartet singing "Someone to Care." Choruses were especially soft and lovely.
- 10:30 PM—From somewhere behind the boulders the sounds of the flute came drifting through the air. Its message, "So Send I YOU," made a lasting impression on me. I hope the others got the same kind of blessing.
- 10:45 PM—Quoted text about Christ's coming being as the lightning that flashes from the east even to the west and in the instant of the quotation lightning actually flashed across the eastern sky. Left me with a feeling of awe.
- 11:00 PM—Bob Dais offered the closing prayer of the retreat. God's Spirit seemed to be sending us down off the mountain to accomplish the task before us. All was quiet. No one wanted to go, and yet it had to be done. So ended the first National Leadership Convention of the Young People's Department of the Church of God (7th Day).



In this age of skepticism, of propagation of the "God is dead" theory, of the evolution theory, etc., many college students sit in the classroom day after day bombarded with agnosticism which would shake the very foundation of their faith.

An example of such destructive seeds of doubt was cited just recently by a college student who said that his professor called the Bible the "work of fanatics."

Is it possible, in such an age, for one to sit in a college class, awe-struck with the impact of the Bible, its prophecies and subsequent fulfillment? It is possible, I was there.

It happened in a Bible Doctrines Class at Midwest Bible College when we were routinely studying the passages in the old scriptures which foretell that Christ will come, then referring to the new scriptures where the prophecies are explicitly fulfilled.

"Tremendous . . ." was one comment made in observing the striking fulfillment of prophecy. "I never read that before . . . I mean . . . I've read it before . . . but I never read it before."

"Why did he pray as though He lost faith?" queried one. "Did He really lose faith when He prayed, 'My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?'"

"This didn't represent a loss of faith," was the comment of another. "He died the death of a sinner. He didn't die the death of a redeemed one as we will be privileged to do because of His sacrifice. The forsaken feeling which He experienced portrays to us the reality of His bearing our sins on His own human shoulders."

Another comment was: "How can we get this across to others . . . I mean . . . can it be put on paper somehow or . . . ?"

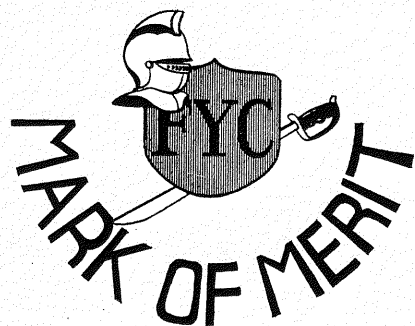
" . . . You mean the impact of Christ's sacrifice? I wonder if it's possible to put it down on paper! It seems that it's something that strikes you with a new thrill like you've never felt before every time you stop to really consider it!"

And there we sat . . . in the classroom . . . our whole beings thrilled with the mere experience of studying God's Word.

This isn't a "commercial" for Midwest Bible College (though it would not disturb me if it had that effect). It is a "commercial" for keeping your faith strong because God's love and His truth are marvelous and dependable.

Don't let those fiery darts of the Evil One destroy your faith, or even cause you to doubt, without first taking a deeper look into the thrilling

aspects of God's Eternal Word and its probing message which can touch alike the hearts of the simple or the intellectual.



by Nathan Lawson

We hope that in your work for Christ as a local FYC each of you will constantly be aware of doing everything for God's glory and for the increase of His Church.

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Col. 3:17).

MARK OF MERIT—can be a guideline.

The Mark of Merit program can be a real guideline to having a real SPIRITUAL, PROGRESSIVE, ACTIVE program for your FYC members. Many FYC groups have found this to be the case as they put their very heart into working for Christ and His Church through this program. The results and benefits of this program depend upon each of you.

The activities of this program will keep you active. They will keep your members spiritually minded if you do everything for God's benefit and glory. We do not want this program to be just a formality, but rather, a help to the spiritual and physical growth of you and God's Church. This is the reason for MARK OF MERIT. This is what we pray it will do for you and your local FYC.

TO BE REVISED.

Some revision on the bonus-point program of Mark of Merit will be completed soon. These revisions will be placed in AIM, and in a new printing of the booklet, *Mark of Merit*, which your leaders will receive. We hope to adjust the program in such a way that small groups can compete well with large ones. The revision

will become effective with the beginning of the 1971 Mark of Merit Year.

REPORT FORMS . . .

Report forms have been received for the 3rd Quarter by all the participating FYC groups. Reports that are returned to my office by the 15th of this month will appear in the next issue of AIM. Others will have to wait one month. Mail those reports as soon as you can get them properly filled out.

PROJECT OF THE MONTH . . .

BACK TO SCHOOL SOCIAL. Have a back-to-school social for your FYC. Include a spiritual program for your youth. A hay ride with a fireside service is a good suggestion. Perhaps a wiener roast would go well with such a social.

Youth Doctrine Corner

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



SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

Official Church of God Doctrine—Article No. 29

. . . **The second coming of Christ will be personal and visible and for the purpose of establishing His kingdom on earth. He will come in the clouds of heaven in the same manner as He departed into heaven.**

Christ To Return As He Ascended

. . . **To come in like manner** (Acts 1:11).
. . . **Every eye shall see Him** (Rev. 1:7).

Christ To Return Soon

. . . **When Zion is built up** (Psalm 102:16).
. . . **In a day of world stress** (Luke 21:25-32).
. . . **In a time when world peace is a major concern** (1 Thess. 5:1-3)

Christ to Return in the Midst of the Battle of Armageddon

. . . **At time when nations have nearly taken Jerusalem and Israel** (Zech. 14:1-4).

Christ to Establish His Kingdom On Earth

. . . **Feet to touch the Mount of Olives**
To be King over all the earth (Zech. 14:1-4, 9).



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

by Michael D. Vlad

MINUTEMAN

SALVATION: THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

Matthew 19:16, 17
James 2:9
1 John 5:2, 3
Matthew 22:37-40
Revelation 12:17
Psalm 111:7
John 14:21
John 14:15

In the circle of churches in our society, there are many that believe that one doesn't have to keep the Ten Commandments in order to be saved. These churches feel that one is saved by grace, by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ upon the cross, and that believing in the commandments shows a lack of faith. The Commandments are considered an unnecessary burden, making Christianity and Salvation a very complicated and formal procedure.

People who believe in "saved only by grace and not by works" also are treading on dangerous ground. By rejecting the Ten Commandments of God they are actually rejecting Salvation. God intended for us to keep the Ten Commandments to the very fullest. Jesus at no time ever did away with the commandments. He did magnify them, though, in His "Sermon on the Mount."

All through the ministry of Christ we find Him teaching—not the doing away and nailing to the tree of the commandments—but a strict teaching of the importance of keeping the commandments. Jesus said in John 14:15: "If ye love me, keep my commandments." In Matthew 19:16-21, when Jesus was asked by the rich young ruler what he must do to have eternal life, Christ didn't tell him not to worry and to just have faith and believe; but He told him to **KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS!** He became more specific to this young man by quoting from the Ten Commandments.

It is true that only our faith in Christ brings forgiveness of sin, but it is by our works that we prove to God and Christ that we do believe in Them. James said in James 2:17 that faith without works is dead.

"...If thou wilt enter into life, **KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS**" (Matthew 19:17).

SEIZING OUR OPPORTUNITIES

(Continued from page 14)

and by the way we live that we have security and peace of mind; and that, no matter how difficult the problems may be that confront us, we are able to continue on without despair. We can have patience with the little things as well as the great.

So far in my own experience, I have found this to be one of the first things that people notice. If I go through a troublesome period without losing faith that all will eventually work out to the best, my co-workers notice this and wonder how it is done. This, many times, has left a wide-open opportunity to put in a few words about Christ, about my faith in Him. And since they have been inquisitive enough to instigate the conversation, they do not put up an automatic shield of defense as they may have done had I *voluntarily* approached them on the very same topic.

When it comes to being a personal witness for Christ, of letting our lights shine and being a living example for others to follow, each and every one of us is able to participate. We may not all be able to preach a sermon, to write stories for Christian books, to sing, to act, to be a leader, or to teach a Sabbath school lesson, but we can all let our lights shine. We may not all be equally skillful or successful in leading others to Christ, so that they may know the wonderful comforts He has provided

for us; but with more prayer and more faithfulness, He will make us all more able and more effective in our efforts for Him.

Perhaps some of us believe that we have no opportunities to witness, but each day we are surrounded with chances. Many times we fail to recognize or seize the opportunities we do have. If this should be true in our lives, we will have to make special efforts to overcome this weakness, and soon what once seemed impossible will become habitual.

LEARN TO LIKE THESE THINGS

In these days of unrest and uncertainties, those who cultivate calmness and self-possession will live longer and enjoy life better. Hence, someone has collated a number of precepts to practice as follows:

Learn to like what does not cost much.

Learn to like reading, conversation, music.

Learn to like plain food, plain service, plain cooking.

Learn to like people, even though some of them may be very different from you.

Learn to keep your wants simple. Refuse to be owned and anchored by things and opinions of others.

Learn to like the sunrise and the sunset, the beating of rain on the roof and windows, and the gentle fall of snow in winter.

Learn to like life for its own sake.

2T₄G- Take Time for God



By Martha Ling

Oct. 15	Luke 15
Oct. 16	Luke 16
Oct. 17	Luke 17
Oct. 18	Luke 18
Oct. 19	Luke 19
Oct. 20	Luke 20
Oct. 21	Luke 21
Oct. 22	Luke 22
Oct. 23	Luke 23
Oct. 24	Luke 24
Oct. 25	John 1
Oct. 26	John 2
Oct. 27	John 3
Oct. 28	John 4
Oct. 29	John 5
Oct. 30	John 6
Oct. 31	John 7
Nov. 1	John 8
Nov. 2	John 9
Nov. 3	John 10
Nov. 4	John 11
Nov. 5	John 12
Nov. 6	John 13
Nov. 7	John 14
Nov. 8	John 15
Nov. 9	John 16
Nov. 10	John 17
Nov. 11	John 18
Nov. 12	John 19
Nov. 13	John 20
Nov. 14	John 21

The primary theme of the gospel is love—the love of an Almighty God toward sinful man, and His Gift of love. The book of John has many passages that proclaim this love of which perhaps John 3:16 is the most famous. However, throughout the whole book you will find phrases such as: “Continue ye in my love,” “as I have loved you,” “that ye love one another,” “abide in his love,” “and my Father will love him,” and “that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them.”

Jesus showed His love for His disciples plainly in His prayer for them before His crucifixion (John 17). Both Jesus and His Father have this same kind of love for us. What can we do to repay Him for His love? “If ye love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15). If we do this the 23rd verse says they will come unto us in the form of the Holy Spirit (as the rest of the chapter declares) and help us.

This short article taken from “Christian Trials” shows an example of a man’s deep love for Christ and the form it took.

WHY GO?

“Why did you go to those strange people,” asked a friend of a returned missionary. “Did they ask you to come?”

“No, they did not ask me.”

“Then why did you go?”

The missionary said, “When I was a young man, going to my room one night I saw a light in a house I passed. The wind had blown the curtain too close to the gas jet, and it was in flames. But because this family had not invited me to warn them, and not wishing to disturb their peace, I passed on to my room.”

“You did no such thing,” said the other. “You wasted no time in crying to them that their home was on fire.”

“Certainly,” said the missionary. “And the people of the strange land did not invite me, but I knew their danger without Christ, and I knew the peace and joy that comes in knowing Him. I was bound, knowing these things, to tell them.”

Are you using a worn-out excuse for not witnessing the love of Christ to those around you?

* * *

This month we had another person complete her full year—Sandra Moldenhauer! Keith Michalak, Karen Michalak, and Lawanna Willhelm have completed three quarters of a year, while Bertha Black has finished a little over one-half of a year. Ricky Taffner completed three months.

Remember to send your folders to: Mrs. Martha Ling, 2248½ Broadway, Toledo, Ohio 43609.

We are sorry that there was a discrepancy in the chapters listed in last month's 2T4G. We hope that you were able to determine the proper chapters from the previous month.

GOD'S PROTECTION

(Continued from page 13)

God, which is in heaven.”

After firing the furnace seven times hotter than usual, the three young men were tied and thrown into the furnace.

“Did we not throw three men into the furnace?” asked the king in disbelief. “Yet I see four men walking. And the fourth seems to be the Son of God.”

From that time on the king believed that there is a living and true God which was the God of the Hebrews. “From now on I will make a new law,” he said. “Whosoever will be found speaking against the will of the God of the Hebrews shall be punished accordingly.”

So, my dear brethren in Christ, God protected them because they believed that Christ would save them. And also they had strong faith that there is a living God that will save them in the midst of danger. We also, my dear brethren in Christ, even though there are so many stumbling blocks that hinder us to serve Him, must be confident enough to believe that there is a living God to protect and help wherever we go and whosoever we may be.

When I finished reading the story the rain and wind could strike any part of my house and my mind was not bothered any more because I know that there is a living God that will save in the midst of danger. In return for His kindness I will serve Him until the last hour of my life.

Winter Retreats Coming Soon

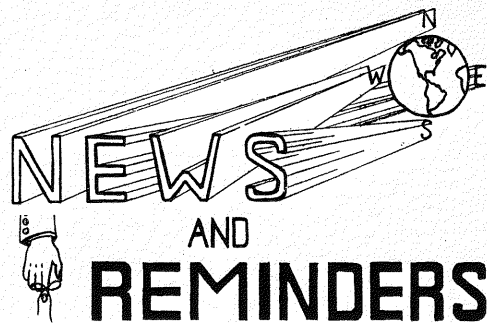
Fall and winter retreats will soon be here. Watch AIM for specific announcements of various retreats and be sure not to miss the one scheduled for your area. All local FYC retreats will be announced in AIM so be sure to keep in touch with your local activities.

God's Blessing Kept Food Cost Low

The low cost of food for the duration of the Leadership Convention was certainly amazing. Total food cost for feeding about one-hundred people for four days was only \$230. That amounts to just over 50¢ per person per day for three meals. On paper that just doesn't seem possible but with God's blessing that was exactly the case at Leadership Retreat. And reports are that the food was good and one could have all he wanted.

Young People's Departmental Finance Counseling Committee Meeting

A Finance Counseling Committee to the Young People's Department met on August 21, at Denver, Colorado. The entire financial program of the department was discussed and plans were made for a more stable financial program. Some of these matters will be presented for adoption by the Young People's Departmental Committee. The Finance Counseling Committee consisted of Elders Melvin Sweet and Ken Lawson, Brother Will McGill, and Sisters Hope Dais and Jewell Linville.



National Committee Meeting Held At Denver

On August 24, the members of the Young People's Departmental Committee met in the General Conference office building for National FYC business.

Important items of business were discussed and may be noticed in a report on the Leadership and National FYC Committee meetings in next month's AIM.

Ooops!

Somehow we overlooked an important announcement. On June 15, a son was born to our 2T4G Director, Martha Ling and her husband, Mark. He is named Tony Glen.

The applicant presented his recommendation with enthusiasm, but the manager read them with some misgivings. "It is certainly splendid for you to have these recommendations from your minister, but I would like at least one recommendation from someone who knows you on week days."—Good Reading.

Those who deserve love least, need it most.

District No. 6 WINTER YOUTH RETREAT

December 3-6, 1970
(Thurs. night through Sun. noon)

at

MILL LAKE OUTDOOR CENTER
Chelsea, Michigan

Ages: High school freshmen through
19 years of age

Cost: Only \$6.00 per person for this
spiritual weekend.

Time to seek Jesus in your life?

*Come for a real spiritual time
seeking our Saviour!*

IT'S THE FIRST!!

District Six and Toledo, Ohio
YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

December 11-13, 1970

Ages: 20-40 (Couples may attend if
one of the couple is within
these ages.)

Hear workshops conducted by
Elders K. H. Freeman and
Vernon Patchen.

For information on cost and
directions, write:

Mrs. Arthur Roche, registrar
Rt. 5, Box 75-F, Swanton, Ohio 43558

OTHER YOUTH RETREATS TO BE HELD IN NOV. AND DEC.

November and December Youth Retreats have been scheduled for the states of Alabama, California, Oregon and Texas. The retreat in California will be held at a camp near Sonora; the dates have been set tentatively for Wednesday evening through Sunday noon, December 23-27, 1970.

Watch for further information concerning these retreats.

THE INFIDEL'S DYING DAUGHTER

Colonel Allen of Vermont was an avowed deist, and the author of several works against the Christian religion. But how little faith he possessed in the hour of danger and of death is evinced by the following fact:

While reading some of his own writings to a friend who was on a visit to his house, he received information that his daughter was at the point of death. His wife was a pious woman, who had instructed the daughter in the principles of Christianity. When the father appeared at the bedside, his daughter said to him, "I am about to die. Shall I believe in the principles you have taught me, or shall I believe in what my mother has taught me?"

On hearing this question, he became much agitated, and after waiting a few minutes, replied: "Believe in what your mother has taught you."

—Golden Sheaves