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# Aim

*The magazine for young people*



*“Spirit of the Living God  
Fall Afresh on Me...”*

## Aim THE MAGAZINE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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Gail Rincker, Editor

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### EDITORIAL ETCHES

It just was nowhere to be found—again and again i searched through my wallet and through my purse, my eyes longing for just a glimpse of green, but the ten dollar bill which had been there only a few hours before was gone. “*Now how could i possibly lose ten dollars . . . why, it was right here just this morning!*” No, it didn’t seem possible, but it was gone. *Certainly it won’t help to worry or become distressed over my lost money—after all, it was only money,*” i reasoned, but still . . . my mind was filled with thoughts of all the things i could have used that ten dollars for. At one time it had simply been ten dollars in my wallet—ten dollars that i had no special plan or purpose for. But once gone from my possession, it became a valuable treasure that could have been used for untold good!

How many things in life are like the lost ten dollar bill, i wonder? As humans we have the tendency to take our most valuable possessions for granted until we lose them. Our health, our friends and family, our peace, safety, comfort and freedom are just a few of those often taken for granted possessions. We are most negligent, though, when it comes to our very lives. Day by day we live with no special purpose or goal in mind, but then should we be given the foreknowledge that our life soon will end, we suddenly think, remorsefully and regretfully, of all the things we could have and should have used our life for. So let us live, Christian friends,

*(Continued on page 26)*

# SUDDENLY YOU PANIC

by Donna Griffin

**Picture This:** You just meet someone and while talking with this new acquaintance the conversation somehow moves around to the topic of religion . . . Your new acquaintance asks you which church you go to, and suddenly you panic . . . You think, “*Well, he’s never heard of the Church of God (7th Day), anyway. And if I tell him I’m a member of the Church of God (7th Day), then I’ll have to go through all the hassle of explaining that I am not Adventist, but that I do go to church on Saturday.*” Sometimes in a situation such as this we may be content just to say that we go to a Church of God. There are lots of those, so probably such an answer will not lead to further discussion. Thus by giving a “safe” answer we get ourselves out of a potentially “dangerous” situation with the smallest amount of embarrassment.

Recently I heard a minister of the Church of God (7th Day) mention the fact that sometimes we are

afraid to talk about our Church. He said, “*If we believe this is the TRUE Church of God on earth, we’d better not be afraid of telling people about it.*” If we can prove what we believe by the Scripture then we have nothing to fear. If we follow the Bible in all points, we have a strong foundation to stand on.

So many churches in the world base their doctrines on documents other than the Bible! We should become familiar with these other churches’ doctrines, and should be ready and willing to point out where they deviate from the Truth. THIS IS NOT EASY TO DO! Many people do not know that the doctrines they believe are false, while others are aware of the invalidity of their doctrines, but nonetheless defend their incorrect beliefs with great passion. They insist, “*This is what I have always believed, and I am not going to change now.*” We, as members of the Church of God (7th Day) must learn how to talk to these people

with patience, love, concern and kindness. If we are to speak against these false teachings we must have a double portion of Christian humility.

We must pray for opportunities to witness to those around us. God will provide the opportunity if we really want it and are willing to take advantage of it. Some of the people we should be most ready to witness to are those very close to us like our friends, family and work associates. Sometimes, however, we will find that those hardest to talk to are the ones closest to us.

The old saying, "actions speak louder than words," may be trite, but it is nonetheless true. We must live like a Christian before people will listen to what we say about Christianity. But we can't stop

there. We have a message which is unique... It is the undiluted truth of the Bible, and we must be ready to tell others about it!

Jesus said in Matthew 10:32-33, "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father, who is in heaven." We cannot afford to deny Christ before other people. We must tell others of the true gospel. If we tell someone and he refuses to listen, we have at least done our part. Once we have told another person about God's truth, it is up to him to choose what to do with that truth. **Our job is to tell ALL PEOPLE about what God has done for us... God will work the miracles from there.**

*"Go ye... preach the gospel... And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (Mark 16: 15, 17, 18).*

Having received the above admonition, the disciples "went forth and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following" (v. 20). These all had burning zeal and undying faith in their Master. When Christ spoke, they believed that He was able to

accomplish that which He promised. *How often do we fail Him through our unbelief?*

Peter and John, on their way to the temple, were stopped by a poor beggar at the gate called Beautiful. Having asked alms, the man received a most unexpected response. Peter said to him, "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6). Peter helped the cripple to his feet, and the former beggar, walking, leaping, and praising God, entered with them into the temple. Without faith in the miracle-working power of the Holy Spirit, Peter's words would have been of none effect.

Elisha, the prophet, was in Gilgal at the time of a famine. He instructed his servant to cook pottage for the sons of the prophets. The man unknowingly gathered a poisonous wild vine and shredded it into the pottage. "O thou man of God, there is death in the pot" (2 Kings 4:40), was the cry of the sons of the prophets. Calling for meal, Elisha cast it into the pot and again gave it to the people to eat. This time it could safely be eaten.

On his way to Rome as a prisoner, Paul suffered shipwreck. Prisoners and soldiers alike swam or floated on pieces of the ship until they reached land, the island of Melita. Through the rain and the cold, came the barbarian inhabitants of the isle and kindled a fire, welcoming the sodden castaways. Rather than bemoaning his fate, Paul, wishing to be of assistance, gathered sticks for the fire. When

he had laid them on the fire, a viper, or serpent, came out of the heat and fastened on his hand.

"No doubt this man is a murderer," whispered the barbarians among themselves, "whom, though he hath escaped the sea, yet vengeance suffereth not to live" (Acts 28:4). Then Paul simply shook off the viper into the fire. The island dwellers watched for him to fall down dead or for his hand to swell; but they watched in vain. After time passed and no apparent harm had befallen him, they then thought the apostle to be a god. During the three months the voyagers were on Melita, Paul healed many of the islanders of their diseases.

**There is power in the blood of Christ—in the indwelling Holy Spirit working through true followers of the Master. We tend to limit God with our finite minds and thoughts, forgetting that in His infinite majesty and grace, He is able to accomplish all things. We limit Him by our unbelief.**

*"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass" (Psalm 37:5). We must stop depending on our own strength and trust in the all-wise and all-knowing Creator Who is able to deliver us. "He delighteth not in the strength of the horse: he taketh not pleasure in the legs of a man. The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy" (Psalm 147:10, 11). "I will go in the strength of the Lord God..." (Psalm 71:16).*

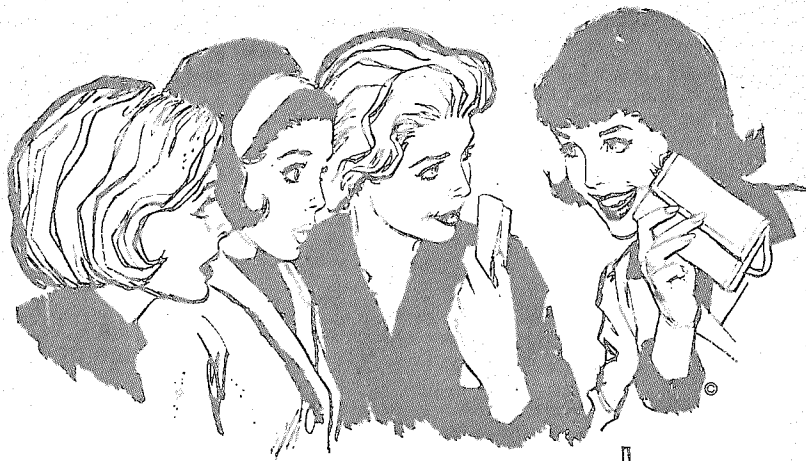
*"Go ye... preach the gospel... And these signs shall follow them that believe..."*

# S e r p e n t s



## in the Fire

by Dorothy Nimchuk



# Gossip!

by Carol Sue Mann

*"... Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."*

*"If any man... bridleth not his tongue, this man's religion is vain."*

*"... By thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."*

Why is it, when one thinks of the word "Gossip," they usually think of women? Are women really much worse than men in this business?

It does seem that some women would sooner "preach" than pray, and wouldn't require strong tea to set their clappers going; but still some men are quite as bad at babbling as the women. I've heard that silence is a fine jewel, but seldom do you see it worn.

Our words, our conversation, act as an index to our character; "... for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matt. 12: 34). What a pity that there isn't a tax on words; what an income there'd be; but, alas, talking pays no toll. And if lies paid double, the government might pay off the National debt; but who could collect the money? If men only said what was true, what a peaceable world we would see.

*Silence seldom makes mischief; but talking is a plague to the parish.* Our tongue can easily

**DID YOU HEAR??**

**MAYBE I  
SHOULDN'T SAY  
THIS, BUT ...**

**I HATE TO  
THINK THIS IS  
REALLY TRUE,  
BUT I HEARD ...**

**DON'T TELL  
ANYONE I  
TOLD YOU,  
BUT ...**

knock us a few loops, and others also, if we're not careful. If we like life let us show it by living accordingly. For Peter tells us, "For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile." An open mouth often shows an empty head. However, talking comes by nature, but it sometimes needs a good deal of training to learn to be quiet; yet regard for truth should put a bit into every honest man's mouth and a bridle upon every tongue. For as spoken in James 1:26, "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain."

If we must talk, at least let us be free from slander, and let us not blister our tongues with backbiting. In the day of judgment we'll have to give an account for every word our tongues help produce. "For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned." Slander may be sport to talebearers, but it is death to those whom they abuse.

We can commit murder with the tongue as well as with the hand. Perhaps one of the worst evils you can do to man is injure his character. Speaking things about another and not knowing the real true fact is dangerous. But yet it seems to be the tendency for people today to evaluate their own opinion and help persuade others to believe their opinion by merely using only what they "hear tell of" to be the truth about another. If you want to know if something is true about a person, why not go and ask them? So often little things are developed into big ones by plain *Gossip*. And the truth is stretched so much it becomes (t)ruth, thus bringing pity or remorse upon another. If we would be sure not to speak amiss, it might be well to speak as little as possible, for "if any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man and able also to bridle the whole body." The Lord has commanded us to be perfect, in Matt. 2:48: "Be ye therefore perfect as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." Therefore if we are living for God, keeping

His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments we must not offend in our words. We must keep His commandments—and ALL of them! For as told in James 2:11: "For he that said, Do not commit adultery said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law." Christ has given us commandments to help us in our life, and to break one command is just as bad as breaking them all in God's sight. Telling white lies and black lies, as some call them, is nonsense. A lie is a lie and you'll pay for it regardless.

Gossip is no good. Give up the shameful trade of talebearing; don't be the devil's bellow any longer, to blow up the fire of strife. If you don't cut a bit off your tongue, at least season it with the salt of grace. Praise God more and blame neighbors less. No flies will go down your throat if you keep your mouth shut, and no evil speaking will come up. Think much, but say little: be quick to work and slow to talk; and above all ask the great Lord to set a watch over your lips.

## Attention All FYCers

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD FYCers TO COME TO THE AID OF THEIR NATIONAL FYC! It's time once again for us to call on YOU for suggestions from which we will select our 1974 motto. Here's your chance to have a part in selecting a meaningful motto and earn a \$5.00 cash award for yourself at the same time!

You have about 6 weeks to come up with that winning idea! Sometime before November 21, write your choice for a motto along with a paragraph of no less than 50 words and no more than 100 words telling why you feel that your motto would be a good one for 1974. Your motto entry should be no longer than 6 words. Examples of previous mottos that may stimulate your thinking are: "Grow More in '64," "For Truth We'll Shine in '69," "Communicating God's Son in '71," "Christ in All We Do in '72," and our present motto, "Teach the World To See In '73."

No entries postmarked later than November 21 will be considered. Mail your entries to the "1974 Motto Contest," National FYC, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, CO 80201.

A committee will select the winning motto which will be introduced in the January, 1974, issue of AIM.

# Are You Just Digging Holes?

by Hope E. Dais

*I saw a man digging a ditch and I walked over to him and said, "What are you doing?"*

*He replied, "Digging a ditch."*

*I walked over to another man who was also digging and asked, "What are you doing?"*

*He answered: "Building a cathedral."*

It has been said that Jesus has no hands but our hands. How does this thought strike you? Certainly with each individual it will be taken with varying degrees of acceptance.

However, in the area of individual accomplishment and individual influence which each of us effects, it most certainly applies. Jesus can perform through us only what we ourselves will permit—only in the degree of effort and the degree of yielding that we allow.

I am reminded here of a commentator who quoted the famed violin maker, Stradivari, as having said, "If my hands slack, I rob God because God cannot make Stradivari violins without Stradivari!" I agree with Paul Harvey's comment that at first this statement sounds egotistical, but the more one thinks on it, the greater meaning it contains.

Do our hands slack? Are we too often taking comfort and assurance from the accomplishments for the Kingdom that we see made by others, yet failing to seek as we should for what more we, individually, might do for Him?

A striking line in a gospel song we sometimes hear asks, "What if every friend He had were just like me?" Doesn't this call for some real self-examination each time we hear it? Then what do we do about it?

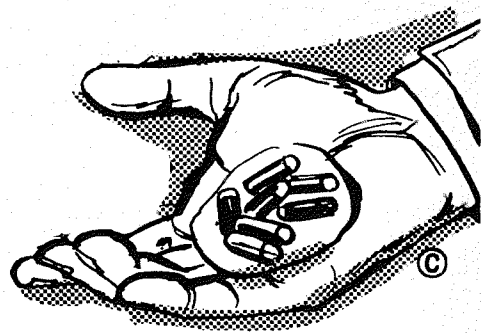
May we not make the mistake of thinking what our hands do must be an outstanding talent. The important thing is that "whatsoever we do is as unto the Lord," and is the best we can offer.

The "ditches we dig" can be great or mediocre, depending on our own attitude and dedication. You—as a student, a clerk, a secretary, an accountant, a carpenter, can be just another worker or you can be outstanding because your character as a child of God is outstanding, and because you develop your opportunities for witness.

Are you just digging holes? Or are you building cathedrals?

# Our Sedative

## Conformity or Transformity?



by Fred Walter

A time of crisis is sweeping the world—and the Church of God. This, primarily, is due to the awareness of the lateness of the hour. The world recognizes the imminence of another war. It also recognizes the precarious position of the human race. To help “soften” or glaze this awareness and its resulting trauma, the world’s leaders are administering heavy doses of “sedatives” to themselves and to others.

This world is full of rebellion—to these “sedatives,” to society, to old paths. This is most noticeable among the young set. Why? For numerous reasons.

**One:** they are reaching maturity, giving them the “right” to think for themselves.

**Two:** their emotions are easily excited.

**Three:** they want to impress adulthood with their achievements—and the best achievements are new achievements.

**Four:** they are searching for truths that the adult world wants to hide from them.

**Five:** they are natural explorers.

**Six:** they may have been inhibited or abused by their peers, including parents, teachers, civic leaders, law officers, etc.

Among religious groups, these conditions and these motives have had their effects. There are right-wingers and leftists in the churches. Such are behind the liberal interpretations of the Bible, behind some existential philosophies, behind much of the ecumenical movement.

All of this is the result of a search, a hope, for something better. But regretfully, much of it is a search in the wrong direction. It is a real dilemma.

One man says, “*I have the answer. Eat, drink, and be merry.*”

Another says, “*No. I have the answer. Make the Bible easier to understand.*”

Another adds, “*It is impossible to keep from sinning.*”

Another says, “*Make sex religiously appealing. Tell the world Jesus had several wives.*”

Someone else will say, “*Let’s become hermits.*”

Another, “*Let’s rebel against society. Its ways are trite and archaic.*”

And on down the line.

This all brings up a basic issue. Where is there an answer that will solve all the problems and restore order and sanity?

Before we can answer this, let us squarely face a related problem. Can these things infiltrate and affect our church? Let’s face it. We are in the world and we are human!

### IN SOFT-PEDALING “WORLDLINESS”

Already we see signs of sedation being used in our church. It can be found among those who soft-pedal “worldliness.” Along comes a joker who asks, “What is worldliness?” and begins a philosophical spiel on the subject, summing it up with the gem, “Worldliness is relative, not absolute,” and that’s that. It is up to the individual to determine what worldliness is since it changes with the times, says he. And he will cite, “What was worldly twenty years ago isn’t worldly today.”

A Bible issue obviously can not be decided by each individual, segregated in thought and contact

from others. What do we mean by this? Simply that no one human has the right to decide and legislate an opinion based only upon his own thinking. The way to salvation or to the kingdom cannot be left for one more mortal man to decide. If it could, I would prescribe the path that would be easiest for me; you would do so for yourself, and so on down the line.

Basically, sin is sin. It is the transgression of the law and that law is no mere matter of opinion, or a transient thing. The person who thinks so is condemning himself to a death sentence.

### IN PROGRAMMING

Another sign is in programming. Religion becomes soft and convenient. Here is Joe the Soft Christian’s attitude: “I’ll worship only when I want to. I’ll listen to the preacher just when I please. I’ll read the Bible occasionally, but only when I’ve finished my job, or my homework, or this good book, or this game of checkers, or this great magazine, or this newspaper. I’ll memorize a memory verse once a month, or once every six months, if I have time. And I’ll pray lying in bed, or sitting in the easy chair, or when I have to in church.”

A convenient Christianity is not a real Christianity. It’s a farce carried on obviously for its impression upon others — because we ought to, not because our heart is in it. This attitude shows in the “ultra-informal” religious service or the sloppily planned Youth Rally.

The second way sedation appears in programming is in the service given only for entertainment. Sometimes the first attitude—softness—is behind this. The program is done only because we have to—it's our responsibility. So it's thrown together and all it does is entertain. But there is another and more obvious reason behind this type of program. We want religion to conform to our taste. So we entertain. Isn't it more exciting and stimulating to hear people laugh than to hear grandpa say amen?

This writer is not trying to say religion is all poker-faced. This would be going too far in the opposite direction. But, neither is religion all jibes, cackles, and horse laughs. The Apostle Paul once told Titus this: "*We should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world*" (Titus 2:12). He also said: "*Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded*" (Titus 2:6).

We must respond to God properly. This means that the Youth Rally and the Young People's meeting should be conducted with one primary purpose in mind: to bring spiritual upliftment. All those attending a Rally or Y. P. program should have to ask themselves at least one of three questions when the service is over: (1) What must I do to be saved? (2) How can I become a stronger Christian? (3) What can I do to help others enjoy this hope I have?

Let a young people's service: inspire; cause a proper response in its audience; make responsible, morally and spiritually sound lead-

ers of the church's young people, and, finally, entertain (but keep this only as a means to the end, not as an end in itself). With these goals and ingredients, remember to put forth the greatest efforts to develop and improve talent. The results will be inspiring!

#### THE ANSWER

Back to that earlier question concerning the answer to all the problems today and the restoring of order and sanity. Although it sounds pessimistic, we, nonetheless, must recognize that mankind as a whole never will achieve such a restoration because most men will not accept God and truth. But it is possible for man to do so. He can know peace, security, hope. All of these have a common Source, Who is their Author. The important thing is: Do you know this Source? Do you love Him and live for Him? If you don't, if you have been embracing a soft, convenient form of Christianity, or none at all, please make the right choice right now.

**"Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment" (Ecclesiastes 11:9).**

**"CHRISTIANITY IS A BATTLE,  
NOT A DREAM."**

**—WENDALL PHILLIPS**

## Tell Me, Please

Youth Questions Answered by

Dale G. Lawson



#### QUESTION

*Why do people gripe about long hair?*

#### ANSWER

Some people "gripe" about long hair because they are habitual grippers.

Others "gripe" when they see the long hair because they see it as a sign of rebellion. These people find it hard to adjust to an apparent affront to the standard they have lived by for so long, so they gripe.

Still others "gripe" because of a fact that IS WELL STATED by the Bible in I Corinthians 11:14. "Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him?" I have the most difficult time seeing how those long locks (even if they are pony-tailed) enhance the appearance of any fellow. My feelings concur with those of Apostle Paul as he expressed them in the written Word of God. On the basis of that Word, THE GRIPE IS LEGITIMATE.

#### QUESTION

*Why knock something until you have tried it, like drugs?*

**Why knock eating a poison mushroom until you've tried it?**

**Why knock suicide until you've tried it?** The answer is obvious. "Trying drugs" is just one step above "trying suicide" because it is potentially as dangerous.

To think you should insist that one must try something so dangerous as drugs, something that projects one to an unreal world only to cruelly hurl him back to reality time after time, something that destroys body and mind such as the hard drugs, the acids, the glue sniffing, etc., do, is beyond my comprehension!

"Why knock something until you've tried it, like drugs?" **THE ANSWER IS OBVIOUS!**

If you have a problem or a question, you are encouraged to write to: Elder Dale G. Lawson, P. O. Box 108, Cloudland, GA 30709. Questions requesting a personal answer through the mail are honored, as well as those for print.

# Halloween - A Harmless Holiday?



by Steve Kurtright

It is quite interesting to note changes and variations in our life styles and customs. For example, it seems like just yesterday that we were wearing unbuttoned shirt collars, and now the button-down collars are making their come-back. It's interesting, too, to notice those things that do not change, like pagan practices. Time passes and tradition takes on new names, but paganism remains pagan. Right now, during the current season, we are noticing the tendency of people embracing these traditions in the name of Christianity, but the fact remains—God forbids this practice for His people.

Halloween is now the "Thing"—parties, socials, church gatherings, etc., will be held and sanctioned as a harmless holiday observance to provide fun and excitement for all.

Have you ever wondered where dressing up in costumes and trick-or-treating got its start? Well, read your encyclopedias! The Druids, early pagans, observed November 1st as "Summer's End" or "SAH'WIN." These people believed on that day all the souls of the dead who had not lived good lives would be compelled to enter into the bodies of animals, while those who deserved reward would be given the souls of humans. This belief was quickly changed, however, by the Romans when they took over Britain. The Romans substituted one of their own celebrations, their festival of "Feralia," for the Druid's November 1st "Summer's End." The Roman festival of Feralia was for the purpose of praying for the dead. This very custom was adopted by the Roman Catholic Church and is still em-

ployed today (This observance of "Halloween" is called "All Hallow's Eve" by the Catholic Church and is the eve of All Saints' Day). Since the origin of Halloween was the Roman Feralia, a time for praying for the dead, and the Catholic's "All Soul's Day" is devoted to that very purpose, we can see a great similarity in the Roman festival and the mass the Catholics observe at this time of the year.

The customs of "Halloween" are just as abominable as the origin of the day. While Halloween celebration here in this country lacks the superstition once connected with it, it nevertheless retains many of the old customs. For example, masquerading house to house, trick-or-treating and jack-o-lanterns all have this pagan connection. How can this be possible?? READ ON:

## MASQUERADING

*The Druids of long ago built great fires to frighten away evil spirits. They thought that by waving burning bundles of straw they could scare the demons and witches away, but in case this didn't work, they put on grotesque and terrifying costumes. They thought that if they dressed horribly enough the evil spirits would think they, too, were an evil spirit and wouldn't harm them. So we have the beginning of dressing up.*

## GIVING CANDY TO TRICK-OR-TREATERS

*On the eve of All Soul's Day, carolers went house to house "souling" or praying for the dead and in return for prayers, cakes and nuts were given to the carolers by the families of the departed.*

## JACK-O-LANTERNS

*This custom comes to us from the Druids, too. Once again in trying to frighten away evil spirits, the Druids built fires. Fire was a symbol of immortality to the pagans. When traveling through the countryside they carried hollowed out turnips with a candle inside to "clear the path" of evil spirits.*

Are you involved in this pagan practice of Halloween? Pagans are not necessarily witch-doctors in the dark of Africa, but can be very well educated individuals who live in our land today. In spite of the fact that Halloween has taken on a "Christian" name (All Hallow's and All Saints' Day), it originates from pagan times and customs and has never taken on a Christian significance.

**SEPARATE YOURSELVES AND BE HOLY TO YOUR GOD!**



When Jesus walked on this earth, He had many friends in all walks of life and in all states of grace. Jesus was so loving and so accepting of people that He blessed a leper, a maniac, an adulteress and a thief. No one was low or inferior to Him. He also knew men of high office and extreme wealth, but He did not show respect of persons. He knew beggars, but He wasn't overbearing with them.

Jesus loves us no matter what we are: rich or poor, intelligent or dull, black or white, red or yellow. He loves us no matter what language we speak, or how we dress, or what church we attend. Jesus values persons not only for what they are, but for what they can become. We need that kind of insight and farsightedness.

Even those who were with Jesus throughout His earthly ministry failed to learn the lesson of impartiality which His words and acts could have taught them. It took a vision to show Peter that God is no respecter of persons: "What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common." Later Peter acknowledged "God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness is accepted with Him" (Acts 10:34, 35).

Certainly we know that God cleansed us all by giving His only begotten Son to us for this pur-

## Seeing Others



## as Christ Sees Them

by Terril D. Littrell

pose. God doesn't choose one man as superior and another as inferior. He doesn't say this nationality is superior and that nationality is inferior. God loves us all with exactly the same boundless, pure, sweet love. So what possible basis could any one of us have for being a respecter of persons? NONE!

Why do we sometimes look down on people because of their position, or their color, or their lack of beauty, or their habits, or educational status, or their mannerisms, or their clothes, or their earthly possessions—or anything else about them? Why? Why are we sometimes guilty of being snobs?

While our minds give assent to the principle that all men are of equal worth, we often feel and act as though some persons are more important than others.

Christ sees each person in the world as an individual masterpiece created by God. We need the spirit of Christ in order to see our fellowman as Christ sees him.

When the love of God is in a man's heart, whether a red man, a white man, or a black man, it lifts him to higher levels of life. It lifts him above prejudice and pride, and brings him into a kingdom where brotherhood is possible.

Jesus conversed with a sinful woman of the despised, dined

with a publican, reached out to touch a leper, and received little children as persons of infinite value. Can you imagine Jesus—surrounded by a group of happy, adoring children whom He has called unto Him—singling out one little child and saying: "Go away from me, little one. Don't try to get on my knee. You were born in the wrong country"? Or saying to another, "Your clothes are too ragged. Go away. We don't want you here"? Or saying to another, "Your father is only a common laborer. Why don't you go home"?

Now you can't imagine such a thing, can you? And neither can I. That's why I am asking all of us to be on guard against our snobbishness, and prejudices. Let's try to imitate Jesus in our acceptance of every human being that God has made as equally worthy of His love . . . and of ours.

If we could only see people as Christ sees them! I wonder what the world has lost in advancement because somewhere, someplace, someone has failed to light a spark in the life of a boy or girl.

To see things as Christ sees them costs us something. To make His standard our standard requires sacrifice on our part as it did His. To see men as He saw them is to give ourselves for them as He gave Himself for us all.

by Calvin Burrell

## Teen

### Guidelines

# *How to Win Friends and Influence People for Christ*

As Christian young folks, you and I have many responsibilities to our God and our fellowman. We should accept these responsibilities seriously and be eager about fulfilling each one. In addition, however, we have a very important obligation to ourselves, and it is one which will most surely determine heavily the extent of our success in Christian work. The obligation about which I speak is that of developing Christian character and personality.

Certainly, cultivating personality and character are Christian works, for we must know better how to win Christian friends and influence people for Christ. From cover to cover our Bible supports the thought that strong character makes strong workers of righteousness, and pleasing personality begets pleasant fellowship. If we are, indeed, ambassadors for Christ, then we must be able to represent Him effectively—yes, we must! Here are two keys (Jesus had them) which will help us build effective Christian character.

- **Develop an outgoing interest in others.**

Some call it charity; some, compassion; some, just plain friendliness. Call it what you will, this trait of an outgoing interest and warmth toward others is the basis for the type of personal charm and magnetism that we all desire. It is also the prompting force of all the good that we can do for others. It is the putting on, in thought as well as deed, of Jesus' own statement, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." All of us should learn to smile more, to share more, to listen more, and to give more. Learn to give of yourself in real consideration for others. Politeness, loyalty, and patience are those traits which endear us to

others and make our Christian influence noticeable. Consider our Saviour's character in this respect: "But when He saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them..." (Matthew 9:36). He was sincerely and warmly interested in others, and He showed it. There are hundreds of little ways that will express our charity for others, also, if it really exists first down in our own hearts.

- **Build zeal, confidence, and enthusiasm into your life.**

Be as it may, the cause however lofty and the reward so great, no one will succeed in a task who does not undertake it with a real desire to do so. Christians have the purpose, and the reward, now we need to have the zeal. The greatest leaders and personalities of all time have had, at least in measure, these qualities of drive, optimism, and courage.

A salesman must show enthusiasm for his product that will bubble over and infect also the client. Learn to proceed in your work with a confidence and faith that God will see you through each test. Build into your voice a tone that will assure people of your zest and sincerity. Most people today seem only half-alive—drowsy, dull, and uninteresting—concerning the product that gives us the most exciting hope in life, an eternity with Jesus Christ.

There are other traits which are very important to our Christian influence. You can read a complete list of them in Galatians 5:22-24. These fruits of the spirit might well be termed "traits of a Christian Character." They are the traits that will aid us in actually putting on a Divine Nature.

**Character building is a constant job, a continuous duty. Good Christian character is not a gift, it is a product of real effort on your part, and prayer. Every one of us should desire to put on these Christian traits. This is our Father's business.**

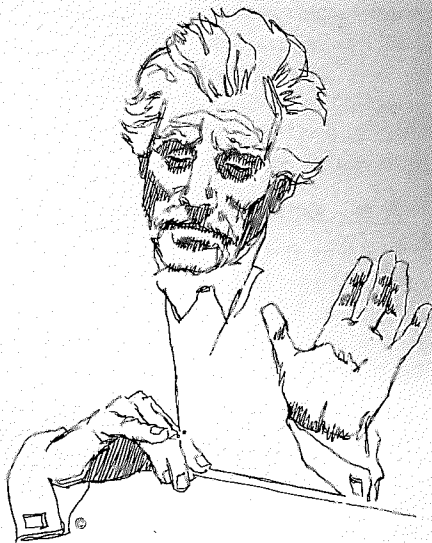
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A good character is, in all cases, the fruit of personal exertion. It is not inherited from parents; it is not created by external advantages; it is no necessary appendage to birth, wealth, talents, or station; but it is the result of one's own endeavors—the fruit and reward of good principles manifested in a course of virtuous and honorable action.

—J. Hawes

# In Tune With God

by Clayton L. Faubion



Do you remember how it sounded when the school band was tuning up before rehearsal? You happened to be going down the hall and you wondered how anything like music could come out of that bedlam. Or perhaps you were part of that bedlam, and you sat in your place blowing scales or trying to pick out that new melody that had recently struck your fancy while the trombone player behind you practiced "smears," the clarinets squealed, the bass player tried his lips on some low tones, the lead saxes worked on a different section of a new march. Your ears were filled with more noise than seemed really possible.

Then the conductor rapped his baton on a music stand and shouted for attention. Gradually the group eased off on the rack-

et until finally only the snare drummer, emulating Gene Kruppa, realized that he was suddenly doing a solo, and stopped with his sticks in mid air and a chagrined look on his face. The conductor made a selection, and the band started to play. The little fellow on the end was blowing his heart out playing third cornet, and blowing out of tune. So the director had to stop the band and give the boy some special help. And that is the way it went until eventually he was able to work out the sour tones and get every student to play his part correctly. Then, when all of those sounds had been properly assembled, harmony was the result.

A musical tone, sounded by itself may be of any given pitch. But when it is sounded with an-

other tone it must be in proper relation, or disharmony results. Harmonious tones are pleasing to the ear, but dissonant tones are not pleasant. In fact, some inharmonic tones, if repeated constantly over a period of time, can become very upsetting and irritating to the nerves. A chord is built by putting together three or more tones which harmonize with each other. These tones must be separated by specific intervals and must be exact in pitch.

In order to establish a standard, musicians have adopted a specific tone which is recognized as universal standard pitch. According to this standard the A above middle C on the piano vibrates at the rate of 440 vibrations per second. The C above that vibrates at the rate of 523.3 per second. John Shore, who was trumpeter for George Frederick Handel invented the tuning fork which is not affected by atmospheric or temperative changes and can be made to vibrate at a prescribed pitch when it is struck. Thus, when a piano tuner says he has tuned your piano to A 440, he means that he has matched it to a tuning fork which gives him the standard universal pitch. This pitch was established at a meeting in Stuttgart, Germany, in 1834.

In order for a great symphony orchestra to produce the magnificent music that thrills the listener with its majesty, its powerful impact, or its gentle tranquility, the composer had to possess outstanding knowledge of harmony. Every musician in the group must have a high degree of skill in playing the respective instruments. Then

the conductor must lead them in such a way that they all play together, accurately, at the proper time and with the proper degree of intensity, as indicated by the gestures of the conductor.

Life is pretty much like a study in music. Sometimes it is sweet and pleasant, and at other times there are discords and unpleasantness. Some of the dissonance might not be our own fault, and at other times it might be. When life is full of harmony it is wonderful—but when things go wrong it can cause a lot of discomfort and even suffering.

As there is a standard in music, there is also one in life. The life which vibrates in harmony with this standard will not be "out of tune," although there may be much disharmony all about. That standard is found in the Bible, the Word of God.

We are reminded of the woman who was watching a group of cadets learning to march together. Her son, who had recently joined the corps, was among them. As the drill progressed and the group passed near her, she turned to her companion and said, "Look, everyone is out of step but my John."

There are times when it seems that everyone else is out of step, or out of tune. If everyone would just get in tune with me, everything would be all right. But the truth is that we cannot have harmony unless we all get in tune with the standard.

That which is true in life is especially true in the Church. We find that occasionally a group of musicians will get together and

tune their instruments to produce harmony even though they may not be at international standard pitch. Sometimes a group of people will live together more or less harmoniously in a community or neighborhood, even though their lives are not tuned to the standard of God's Word. But in the Church, where the Word is taken as the standard, and everyone is expected to attune his life to it to the best of his ability, we must be very careful that we do not contribute to any discordant situation which may arise.

Before harmony came into use in about the eighth century, music was played and sung in unison. Everyone sang the same note or played the same note. Then as harmony was developed, it was found that the music was much more pleasant if it was not played and sung in unison.

Some people think that every person in the Church should see all issues and understand them in the same light as every other person. Of course this is an impossibility, and life would be very dull if it could be achieved. The people of this group err in mistaking unison for unity. They want us to be in unison. Harmony is produced by tones which are properly related to each other according to the standard pitch. Harmony in life and in the Church is produced when people have their hearts tuned to God and "vibrate" in the proper relationship to each other. The unity of a great orchestra is not achieved by all musicians playing the same note, but by each musician playing

the notes which produce pleasant harmony as directed by the conductor.

The conductor gives the beat, establishing the rhythm. At times it seems that one musician or group of musicians may be going completely away from the rest of the group, but when it is all put together properly under the baton the result is most pleasant. Jesus Christ is the Conductor which we must follow. He establishes the rhythm of our lives, indicating just when we should play a certain part in the symphony of life. If our lives are out of tune with the Word and we do not follow His leading, the result cannot be anything but incongruous. But even though it may seem to some that He is leading us in a way that is quite divergent from all the others, as long as we are in tune and we play our part according to His directions, the end result will be harmony.

**How is life for you, young reader? Is it full of sweet harmony, or is everything out of tune and off beat? Maybe you are like the beginner playing third cornet in the school band—you are blowing out of tune and don't know it. Just like the beginner you need special help from the Master. Then, instead of contributing to the discords of life, you can have a part in the harmony. Harmony can make life a beautiful experience when you are in tune with God.**

*God never made His work for man to mend.—John Dryden*

Minuteman

# humility

by Marcia Woods

Most difficult, but most essential of the Christian qualities is humility—**putting others first, caring more for others than for ourselves.** Christ placed so high a value on humility that He instituted a special ordinance as a reminder. As an example of humility, Christ washed His disciples' feet during the institution of the Lord's Supper. The important of this act was not left in question: *"Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you"* (John 13:14, 15).

With such explicit importance placed on feet washing, it is difficult to see how many fail to follow Christ's example, but many do. A closer reading of the account in John 12 will show that Peter was reluctant to allow Jesus to wash his feet and was rebuked for his hesitation. When Peter said that Christ would never wash his feet, Christ replied, *"If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me"* (John 13:8).

Through this ordinance, Christ was teaching His disciples a lesson in humility. He was showing them that none among them were too good or too great to wash the other's feet. In John 13:36 He emphasized that the servant is not greater than his Lord nor the one that was sent greater than the one who sent Him.

In John 13, Christ made three specific statements that we are to observe the ordinance of feet washing:

**"... ye also ought to wash one another's feet." verse 14**

**"... ye should do as I have done." verse 15**

**"... happy are ye if ye do them." verse 17**

After such explicit instructions, how can we fail to see that feet washing is essential to us today and was not merely a custom of that day? **Humility is a key to Christianity which makes our observance of the ordinance of even more importance.** To better serve Christ, our Master, we must become more and more Christlike and follow His teachings as closely as possible.

Proverbs 15:33

Philippians 2:3

I Peter 5:5

James 4:10

Romans 12:3

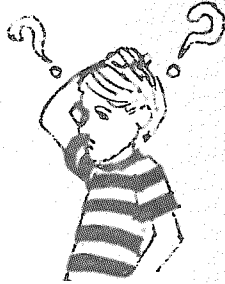
John 13:14, 15

Matthew 18:4

Matthew 23:12

In a recent AIM article entitled "Do You Know?", our Evangelette Director, Sheryl Blalock, challenged all AIM readers to test their Bible knowledge by searching the Scriptures for the answers to ten very difficult Bible questions. The answers to these questions and the winners of this contest are announced below.

# Did You Know?



Did you know the answers to these Bible "toughies"?

Some of you FYCers did some good research: 1st prize goes to Sylvia McNeal from Central City, Nebraska; coming in second was Diane Williams from Harrisburg, Oregon; and third Jenny Youngs from Walla Walla, Washington. Keep digging, girls!

Here are the questions that were given for the contest. Did you find the correct answers??

- 1. Of whose house is it said, "Her house is the way to hell"?**  
The strange woman (harlot) of Proverbs 7.
- 2. When God sent the quail to the Israelites, what was the minimum amount each man gathered?**  
80-100 bushels!
- 3. Who was Huldah?**  
The wife of Shallum and a prophetess of Israel.
- 4. How many clean animals of each kind went into the ark?**  
14 (If you disagree, do some research!)
- 5. While hanging on the cross, what was Christ given to drink?**  
Vinegar and gall, which He tasted of. Wine mixed with myrrh, which he refused. The myrrh was used in New Testament times as a spice or a medicine. As a mild narcotic, it was probably given to dull pain.
- 6. When Jesus told the disciples to cast their nets on the right side of the ship, how many fish did they snare?**  
153.
- 7. In Jotham's parable what does the bramble represent?**  
Abimelech.

- 8. What ignorance did God wink at in times past?**  
The making of graven images as listed in the second commandment.
- 9. God said He would raise up a prophet like unto Moses. Who was this prophet and how was he similar to Moses?**  
Jesus Christ. He was like Moses in that He was a prophet sent from God to Israel, a lawgiver, a mediator, and also a man obedient to God.
- 10. The accusations Christ made in Matthew 23 were directed to the common people. True or false?**  
False. They were directed to the scribes and Pharisees.

2T4G—Take Time For God

by Marilyn Current

## Forgiveness— *What Is It?*

"For if you forgive other people their failures, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you will not forgive other people, neither will your Heavenly Father forgive you your failures" (Matthew 6:14, 15, Phillips). Forgiveness of fellow man is essential in the Christian's life. This month's daily readings will help to enlighten you on the nature of forgiveness.

### GOD'S FORGIVENESS TO MAN

- Nov. 1—Ps. 86 (v. 5)
- Nov. 2—Ps. 103 (v. 3)
- Nov. 3—Matt. 12 (vs. 31, 32)
- Nov. 4—I John 1 (vs. 7, 9)
- Nov. 5—Ps. 78 (v. 38)
- Nov. 6—James 5 (v. 15)
- Nov. 7—Psa. 130 (vs. 3, 4)
- Nov. 8—Rom. 4 (vs. 7, 8)
- Nov. 9—Luke 15 (vs. 4-32)
- Nov. 10—Matt. 9 (vs. 2, 6)
- Nov. 11—Mark 2 (vs. 3-12)
- Nov. 12—Luke 5 (vs. 18-26)
- Nov. 13—Luke 23 (v. 34)
- Nov. 14—Acts 5 (v. 31)
- Nov. 15—Acts 13 (vs. 38, 39)

- Nov. 16—I Pet. 2 (v. 23)
- Nov. 17—Acts 8 (v. 22)
- Nov. 18—Is. 55 (v. 7)
- Nov. 19—Col. 2 (vs. 13, 14)

### MAN'S FORGIVENESS TO MAN

- Nov. 20—Matt. 6 (vs. 14, 15)
- Nov. 21—Matt. 18 (vs. 21-35)
- Nov. 22—Eph. 4 (v. 32)
- Nov. 23—Col. 3 (vs. 12, 13)
- Nov. 24—Mark 11 (vs. 25, 26)
- Nov. 25—James 2 (v. 13)
- Nov. 26—Luke 17 (vs. 3, 4)
- Nov. 27—Luke 6 (vs. 27, 28)
- Nov. 28—Matt. 5 (v. 44)
- Nov. 29—Rom. 12 (vs. 14, 20)
- Nov. 30—Acts 7 (v. 60)

## EDITORIAL ETCHES

(Continued from page 2)

with a real purpose and goal in mind, and let us remember that truly our life is but for a little while, and then will be gone. One wise man has said, "*the best use of life is to spend it for something that outlasts life.*" Let that be our determination as we live each day with full awareness of the brevity of life.

**FOR WHAT IS YOUR LIFE?** It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away" (James 4:15).

### A TIMELY RHYME

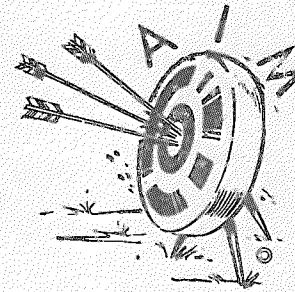
The time of day I do not tell as  
some do by the clock,

Or by the distant chiming bell set on  
some steeped rock,

But by the progress that I see in what  
I have to do;

It's neither "DONE O'CLOCK" for  
Me,

or only "HALF-PAST  
THROUGH."



"What are the aims which are  
at the same time duties? They  
are the perfecting of ourselves  
and the happiness of others."

—Kant

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