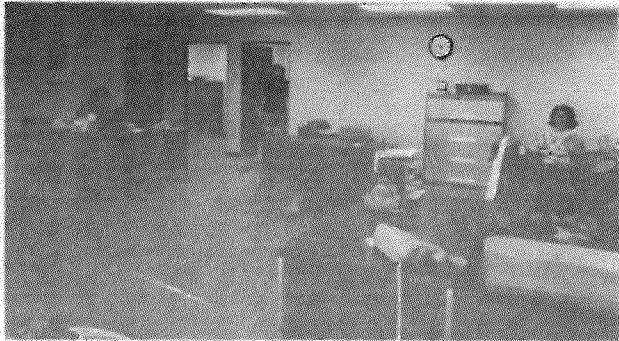
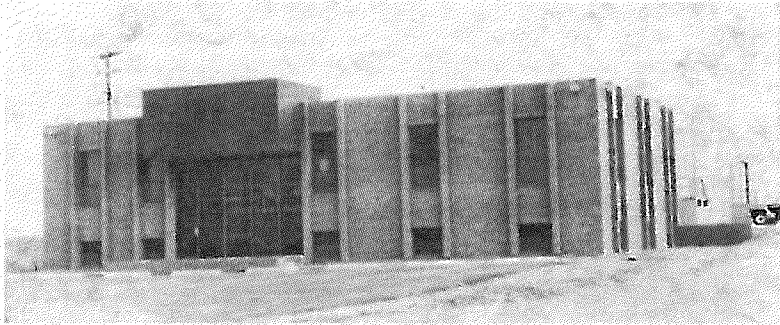


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SEPTEMBER 1972

Our New Home

The National F.Y.C. is happy to be located in a new office in the new General Conference Building at Denver, Colorado.



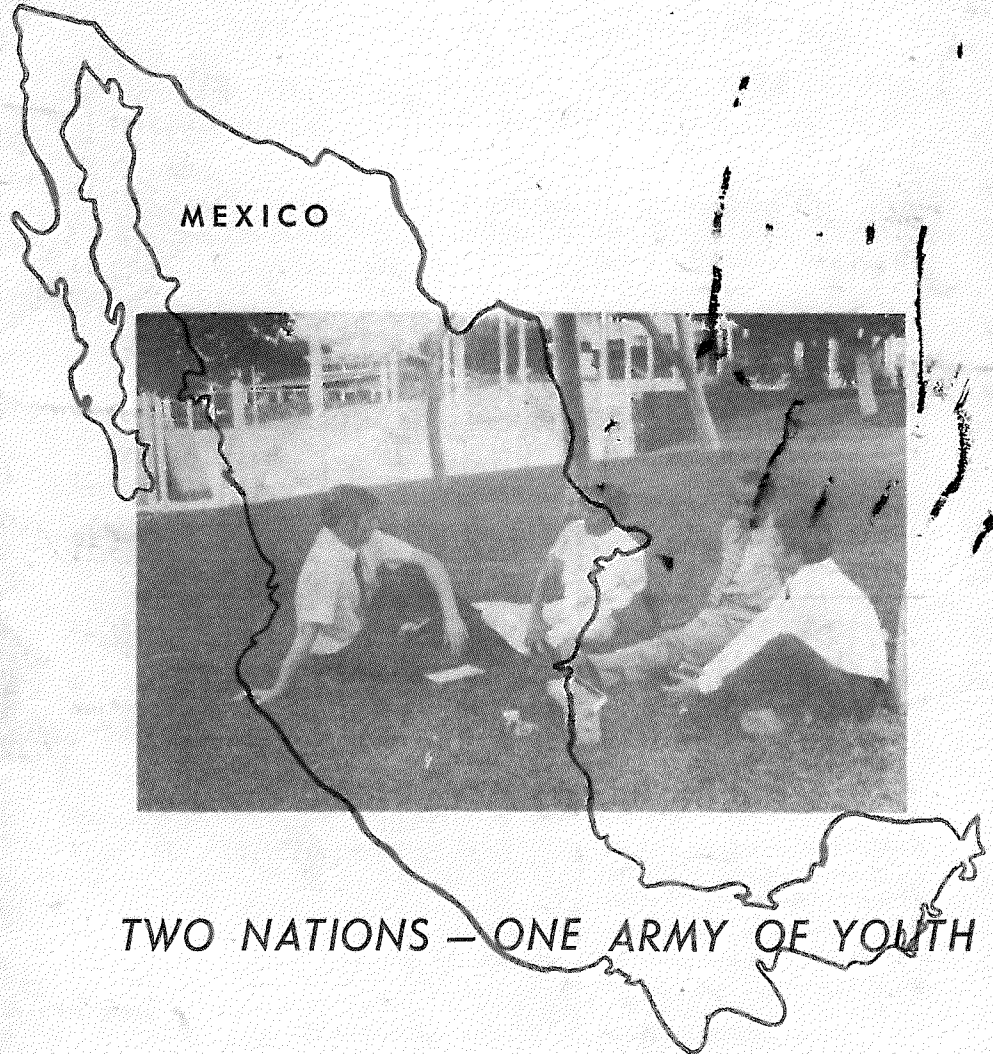
The picture at the top of this page is an outside view of the Conference building. The door to the National Youth office can be seen in the center of the middle picture of the lobby and central office area. Part of the inside of the F.Y.C. office is shown in the third picture.



Come visit us at our new home any time.

Aim

The magazine for young people



TWO NATIONS - ONE ARMY OF YOUTH

Aim THE MAGAZINE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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

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Gail Rincker, Editor

Vol. XXXVI, No. 9



Elder Calvin Burrell, Chairman of the National FYC met with Elder Raul Escalante, Chairman of the Mexico Conference, and Abraham Fentanes, National FIC Director to discuss the formation of one army of youth. Details of this exciting meeting are found on pages 10-12 of this issue of AIM.

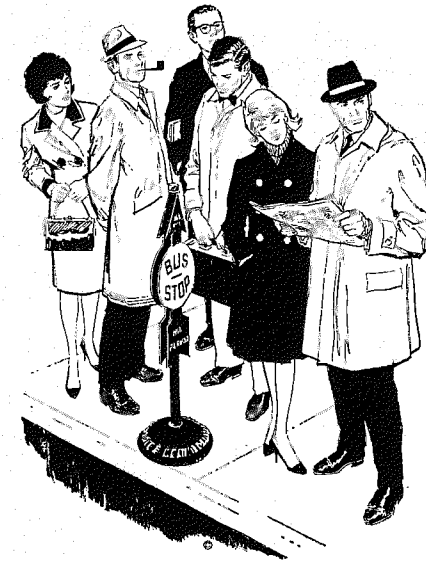
Contents of This Issue

The Human Encounter <i>Rita Moldenhauer</i>	page 3
...and the poor get poorer <i>David Robinson</i>	page 6
The Enlightened Ones <i>Martha Ling</i>	page 8
Flight No. 51... to Oaxtepec <i>Calvin Burrell</i>	page 10
Tell Me, Please <i>Dale G. Lawson</i>	page 13
Parents + Teenagers=Problems? <i>Jewell Linville</i>	page 14
We've Only Just Begun <i>Retreat Report</i>	page 18
In His Steps <i>Retreat Report</i>	page 19
Minuteman <i>Marcia Woods</i>	page 21
The Chance and the Challenge <i>MBC Report</i>	page 22
God Is Great! God Is Good! <i>Kathy Thomas</i>	page 24
Thank God for the Chance <i>Tom O'Haver</i>	page 25
Spring Vale Water Draws Students <i>Cecyl & Elden Fischer</i>	page 26
Mark of Merit <i>Nolan D. Rincker</i>	page 28
2T4G <i>Marilyn Current</i>	page 30
Be of Good Cheer <i>Cindy Gibbs</i>	page 35

BRADEN ACOTE
GRADE SCHOOL

The Human Encounter

by Rita Moldenhauer



"Two senior citizens were beaten and stabbed today at Mound Street and 6th Ave., when a youth approximately twenty-five years old attacked from a blackened doorway. Onlookers were stunned as the older man, identified as Donald Wandette was viciously stabbed to death in a matter of minutes, while his wife, Louise, was seriously injured. As yet the youth has not been apprehended, but he is described as Caucasian, male, 175 lbs., wearing glasses. There was no apparent reason for the encounter."

Of course, this is but a newscast depicting events which happen every day—out there, that is. How discouraged we can become when reviewing the national situation of crime and conflict. Sometimes the severity of the situation is even difficult for us to imagine! Take, for example, the "typical" Church of God young person. He is generally a product of Christian upbringing in the home. Attitudes of kindness, politeness, and friendliness govern his life. Like the earnest Christian that he

is, he has attempted to live honestly, in harmony with others and at peace with God. He is a frequent attendee of youth camps and camp meetings, and he often takes the lead in contributing through speaking, or music, or gives at least through personal testimony on occasion. He works constantly on himself to improve his witnessing—it's been stressed so much lately, and he knows its value! Oh, I could go on, to add the characteristics with which we are familiar. This hypothetical person somehow fits us all a little bit. Yet, that isn't the point.

There certainly is nothing wrong in attending church camps nor in having a Christian family. *The point is that sometimes we create a nice little world for ourselves and our fellow-Christians and fellow-Church-members, and our little world is one from which REALITY is missing. It is a world where the news incidents happen "out there" somewhere.* The world we live in, and the world which we create for ourselves is filled with other "nice" people. We can continue to live in it even if it has unconverted members, because they are at least polite—if nothing else. No one attacks us physically, not even verbally, and we suffer little trauma that has the ability to disturb us in our "secure" private world. Yes, many of us do live with very innocent attitudes.

But what is the point exactly? Certainly we know the world is full of sin and crime. We are not totally naive! We realize that awful things happen in the world. You can't be trying to tell us that we should associate primarily with sinners and evil-doers rather than with the family of God! You can't tell us that we are unaware of the world around us! No, but I would like to ask: "How aware are you?" "How aware am I?" "How concerned are we?" "Can we handle ourselves in a Christian manner when we are confronted with a portion of the world's ugliness—a portion which attacks us, personally?" Consider with me a hypothetical newscast:

One young person, Church-of-God affiliation, was rudely accused in a laundromat today when the supervising woman accosted her with profanities, followed by personal violence. Onlookers were shocked into silence as the supervisor, of approximately 50 years of age, 140 lbs., roughly handed the girl a mop while profanely insisting that she wipe up a small puddle of water, unwittingly created. The girl, Rita Moldenhauer of Stanberry, Missouri, was not able to control her temper, and after mopping the puddle, threw the mop on the floor saying "Next time, speak more civilly!" At this point, the laundry-woman forcibly tried to expel the girl from the laundromat, and Rita was nearly overpowered by the woman's strength. As yet the laundry-woman has not been identified. The encounter was unprovoked.

But the consequences were shattering. Yes, it's a true story—it happened to me yesterday! I was shocked into realization that I had created a "nice" world around me, filled with fellow-Christians and friends; situations that never really tested me. Although God has forgiven, I find it difficult to forgive myself for losing my temper. It was a moment when I could have shown to another what Christianity is all about, what Christ has to offer. If I had not failed.

"No—I don't want to hear this personal thing about you, Rita. Why do you tell this to us?" Isn't that your demand? Yes, I know it would have been easier to refrain from telling anyone. I know that it would have been easier for you not to know—it's hard and difficult to become aware of a harsh reality in life, something that's someone else's business. The reason I tell you is because I give a warning! **YOU MUST BE AWARE! Don't, don't ever live in a "nice" little world of "nice" people who never challenge you. It is a type of world that creates "little" people. It does. "Little" people in the eyes of the Master.**

What happened to me is only an unhappy slice of reality. Don't deceive yourself—it could happen in your life, as well as in mine. Maybe not in the same manner. It may be your temper, your pride, your selfishness, or any number of things. *Beware that your "nice" little world isn't a structure behind which you hide.* I have lived for a long time operating under the idea that when you are nice to people, they'll be nice in return. And, as I write, I wonder how many of you, my friends, fellow S.V.A.'ers, others I have met, have also deceived yourselves into thinking that Christianity should shield you from the hard things in life, the "attacks," physical and verbal. *Have you painted reality as a nice place where you and your friends live, and as a place where hurtful things happen "out there"? Are you equipped with depth in Christ to be victorious when surprise situations confront you? How much time have you spent in the fine and noble world of daydreams where you cherish words like "honor" and "self-respect" and "perfection," while you perhaps have forgotten the daily HUMAN ENCOUNTER?*

No—I'm not speaking against high ideals, but only against story-book Christianity. The stereotyped kind. The kind that fails when shocked by a hard slice of reality. It is somehow a battle of differentiation between the ideal and the practical reality. I'm not going to live within the innocently created and unbalanced view of the "nice" and "safe" attitudes any longer. (Even if those attitudes were created in good will.) No! It is misleading, it is harmful, and it prevents a deep Christian walk with the Lord. What do you want out of life? I've made my decision—**MAKE YOURS!**

Teen

Guidelines

by David Robinson

... and the poor get poorer

**“FOR THE POOR ALWAYS YE HAVE WITH YOU;
BUT ME YE HAVE NOT ALWAYS” (JOHN 12:8).**

Jesus truly prophesied correctly as He told about a situation which would always exist on this earth and cause mankind more headaches than he could ever number—POVERTY! The subject of “poverty” has been the platform of many political candidates but the concern of very few after they were elected and placed in office. For years and years there have been constant efforts to eradicate the horrible conditions found in poverty-stricken areas. There have been fund drives, campaigns and rallies—but after each year the problem worsened. Why is poverty such an uncontrollable, unconquerable problem?

Truthfully speaking the problem stems from sin and the carnal nature which humans possess. Because of this sinful flesh and its lusty desires, poverty has spread throughout this world like “wild-fire.” Here’s how sin and this carnal nature cause poverty:

1) People with their carnal natures and desires seek all that they can in this world and extend themselves as far as possible in obtaining those things. The lust of the eye, the pride of life and the lust of the flesh, all tools of Satan, work on the human being as he seeks to satisfy his inward wants. As man longs for these material posses-

sions, he begins to do what sociologists term “living beyond his means.” After fulfilling all his lustful desires the man finally has his eyes opened to the fact that he is deep in debt and that there is no way he can pay for all that he has accumulated. Depressed and downhearted, many once rich “go broke” and

find themselves on the poverty list. Christians have crucified the lust of the flesh and are not ruled by sinful desires and wants (Galatians 5:24). GOD has also empowered the Christian with a sound mind (II Timothy 1:7) so he may know what his financial limits are and stay well within those limits.

2) Probably the greatest cause of poverty today is the fact that man is *lazy*. The world offers man all the channels of pleasure and excitement, removing his eyes from his responsibilities and real needs. As man becomes wrapped up in this world he is “turned off” to work and “turned on” to worldly wasteful habits which cause him to become lazy. The cares of the world continue to drain him of all the energy and possessions he has until finally he too realizes that poverty is his destiny. Praise GOD that He has given us Christians work and duties to perform on this earth which keep us busy and away from lazy habits.

3) Negative parental influence upon the children of the past generations and our present generation has been one of the main contributors to the poverty problem. When a child grows up in a home where “could care less” parents live, how can we expect that child to change his learned environmental habits when he is older? Poverty sometimes seems like it is “inherited” in various families! Thank GOD for His beautiful Word which gives all the

instructions for a perfect home and family.

Poverty isn’t a strange disease that attacks a person without, but is an affliction caused by the basic carnal nature within a person. Jesus knew that there would always be poverty on this earth because He knew that man would always possess a basic carnal nature. Does this mean that a person who is poor or in the state of poverty has to remain in that condition? Absolutely NOT!

The poor are not exempt from hearing the Gospel message and that message can change their lives and raise them out of their wretched condition. As Christians we may look around and shake our heads in pity as we see thousands of people suffering in poverty, but we fail to carry the gospel to those in that condition. True, those people deep in poverty have either been born into that situation or caused themselves to fall into that state and it isn’t our fault, but it will be OUR fault if we fail to reach out to them when the opportunity arises (Ezekiel 33:8).

Jesus made special effort to reach out to the poor of His day (Luke 4:18; 7:22) by preaching the gospel message and instructing people, such as the rich young ruler (Matthew 19:21), to “put his heart where his mouth was” and give all he had to the poor. We speak often of how we, as faithful Christians, should reach out to the poor, but the days, months, and

(Continued on page 27)

The Enlightened Ones

by Martha Ling



During the dark ages people were very superstitious and believed many things that we, in our "enlightened" age, laugh at. Seeing maggots on rotting meat, and not knowing about the life cycle of the common housefly, they believed the worms came from the meat. In some ways modern man retains some of the thinking of these ignorant people, for he tries to tell us that way back in the beginning life suddenly sprang up from all the muck and lifeless matter about it. This theory is contrary to one of science's main maxims taught even to grade schoolers: *Life cannot come from lifeless matter. Life always comes from life.* Not only do they teach this, but they also say that man evolved from lower animals and a chain of lesser beings all the way back to the first amoeba or plankton.

True science as taught by the Bible is specific about both of these suppositions. Life came from a living, breathing God; and each kind of plant or animal produces after his own kind. A man has a human child, a cow has a calf, a horse a colt, etc. The Bible upholds the very rules of science which were made but have been forgotten by scientists themselves.

Evolutionists teach spontaneous generation—life suddenly originates from lifeless matter. The Bible teaches "spontaneous" creation—as God spoke, life appeared. Evolutionists also teach that something superior (life) came from the inferior (lifeless matter). Nature and God teach just the opposite. Inferior things are always a creation of a superior force. A bird is superior to its nest, an engineer or mechanic is superior to his machine. God is su-

perior to His creation—the universe and its inhabitants.

There are two main theories scientists give for the formation of the galaxies. Either they all developed from a huge atom or neutron which contained all the material for the universe, or there was a continuous creation of matter in the form of atoms of hydrogen. In both cases we might ask, *"If one must believe in the pre-existence of some form of matter, why not believe it was a superior, intelligent being with Super-natural powers—the God of the heavens and the earth? Would not it take less faith to believe our planet and the universe were a planned creation, appearing upon God's command, rather than a marvelous, mysterious accident?"*

Life had a beginning and progressed slowly, so the theory goes. *Does not it also take more faith to believe man, in all his physical splendor, developed without planning from such an inferior beginning, than to believe an omniscient God made him in His image in part of one day?* Each plant, each animal is adapted perfectly to its environment — accident, you say?

Modern science says the process of mutation in plants and animals is caused by environmental influences. However, mutations occur only in genes, changing physical appearance, such as occurs in albinism. Mutations are caused by a change in the chromosomes of the genes, not by environmental influen-

ces, and one type of animal cannot mutate into another type.

As for the missing links (the stages which should be seen between different types of animals), there are none. And if evolution were true, the links should not be missing, but should always be present between the different stages, showing a continuous "progress" and evolving from stage to stage. In God's creation, everything was made good, so there are no in-between stages. There are occasionally new types within the same kind of animal or plant, such as the dog family, because of cross-breeding, but no links to a new animal can be found.

Although scientists continually tell us that natural selection lets only the strong adapt and live, they fail to tell us what this mysterious force is. The mysterious "Mother Nature" is none other than God, the Father, Who is taking care of His strong to let them live long enough to reproduce another healthy generation. Man, perhaps, is the only exception to this rule since he was given a mind of his own, and the physically weak can be the stronger mentally and spiritually.

It seems scientists cannot solve the ultimate mystery of nature. *Matter and life had to have a beginning, they could not and did not "just happen."* So, why not accept the inevitable—God created both; and

(Continued on page 33)

Flight No. 51

... to Oaxtepec

by Calvin A. Burrell

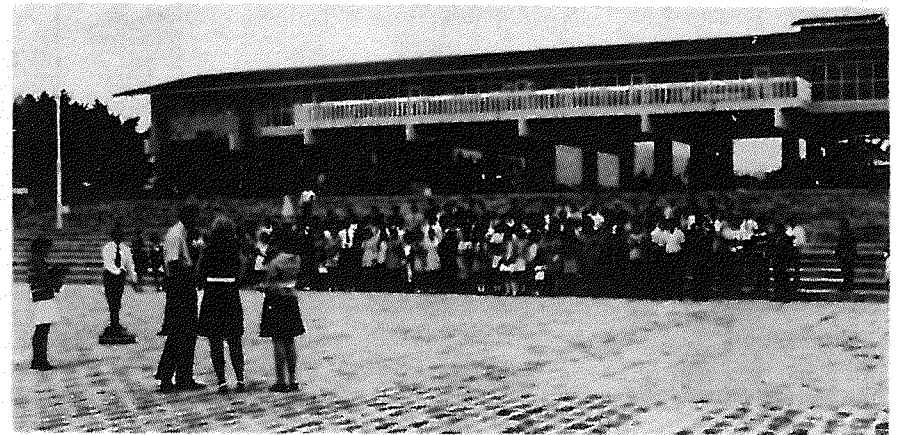
"Mexicana Airlines." "Flight No. 51, to Guadalajara and Mexico City; now ready for passengers."

That was our signal and six of us representing the National F.Y.C. found our places in line and crowded slowly down the stairs, up the ramp, and onto the 727 jet. Janice Carlin, Pat Jones, Debi Scott, Patricia Stephens, David Robinson, and I were headed for the Mexican National Youth Congress of F.J.C. leaders, in Oaxtepec, Mexico, on August 14 through 16.

We arrived in Mexico City shortly after midnight, where two of the local youth were waiting to drive us the sixty miles through the mountains to Oaxtepec. By 3:00 a.m. we were safely in our dormitory rooms for a short night's sleep.

The next morning David and I were immediately met by Brother John Barrera, who is the interpreter and translator for the Mexican National Youth Committee. John, who is a graduate of a California High School and now resides in Mexico, served us very faithfully for the entire time we were in Mexico. His help, in addition to that given by Patricia Stephens, a Spanish teacher from Houston, Texas, kept us well-informed on proceedings of the various meetings.

One can't be around Oaxtepec very long without noticing that it is "quite a place!" A government-owned resort, it is built on a foothill of the scenic Mexican "Rocky Mountains," within view of beautiful 17,000-foot Mt. Popocatepetl. The housing accommodations range from "very nice" to "luxurious"; covered sidewalks trace through lush green trees, palm trees, shrubbery, and blooming flowers to the modern convention hall where our meetings were held. Meals were served cafeteria-style in a large, beautiful dining hall. A huge, open courtyard, marked by statues of Mexican historical figures, dominates one end of the resort area. At the other end, there is a cable car that can be ridden from a high rock to a beautiful spring-fed pool on a lower level for 2 pesos (15¢ approx.). While riding this cable car we watched



All the young people who attended the Mexican National Youth Congress gathered on the steps of the convention hall for this picture.

an iguana lizard play on the rock below. And the days were "sun-shiney"!—temperature in the 70's! This was living!

And yet the real life of those three days was to be found in the convention hall-auditorium, where nearly 250 youth leaders and sponsors from all over Mexico met to worship, discuss, and plan for a greater work in the F.J.C. (Fraternidad Juvenil Cristiana, or, Fraternity of Young Christians) of Mexico. Their singing was strong and spiritual; their fellowship was cordial and heartfelt; the sermons were "to the point" and seemingly brief (at least when they finished their strong point, they immediately sat down—I hope to learn from them!); their enthusiasm for and dedication to the gospel of Christ and the Church of God was obviously high.

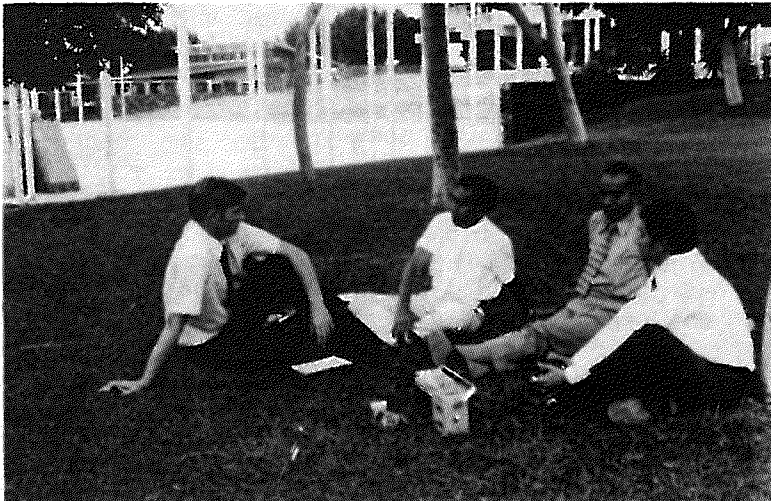
During a special business session with the brethren, I learned that 1972 is the first year the Mexican F.J.C. groups have participated in such programs as Mark-of-Merit and National Youth Week. I was thrilled to hear them report that the benefits from these activities have far exceeded any problems that may have been experienced. Now their National Committee is asking for closer cooperation between the Mexican and U.S. youth, and their desire is that all the Churches of God around the world might be organized into one army of youth to enjoy fellowship and benefits of similar organization and activity. They made it plain that they are looking to us for leadership in organizing such a world youth movement.

One of the most memorable things about our three days with the Mexican youth was the warm friendliness and smiles which they exhibited to all of us! When we sang, they responded with loud and hearty "Amen's." Wherever we went, they treated us

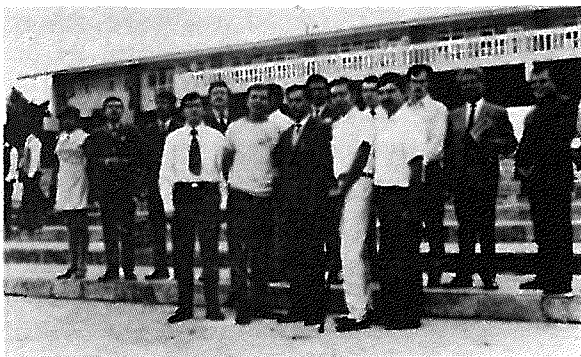
with the finest hospitality. The language barrier was a hindrance to much personal conversation, but there was no doubt about the feeling that existed in their hearts: it stuck out all over.

Then on Thursday morning it was all over, and time for us to return home. We enjoyed the kindness of Brother Escalante, Chairman of the Mexican Conference of the Church of God (7th Day), who treated us so royally before we met our plane on Thursday, at noon. The flight back to San Antonio, on board a nice, new Braniff jet, was beautiful.

And thus ended a month's traveling for God and Youth, and a tired but happy group of F.Y.Cers separated and went five different directions to home.



Elder Calvin Burrell, Chairman of the National FYC, John Barrera, interpreter, Elder Raul Escalante, Chairman of the Mexico Conference, and Abraham Fentanes, National FJC Director, met on the lawn of the convention center to discuss and plan the work of international FYC.

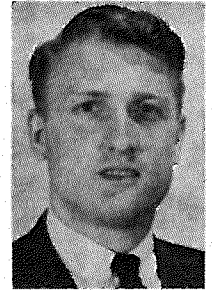


The National Mexican Youth Committee, the Overseer of the FJC and the youth leaders of Mexico's six districts posed for this group picture.

Tell Me, Please

Youth Questions Answered by

Dale G. Lawson



QUESTION

I've got a question for you! How old do you think a person should be to get baptized? Christ was baptized when he was 30 years of age, and yet a lot of people get baptized when only 9, 10, 11, and 12 years old. Now! Is this just 'feeling' or are they really ready for baptism?

ANSWER

And a fine question it is!

The fact that Jesus was about 30 years old when He was baptized is in no way a Biblical attempt to set an age at which one may be baptized. You see Jesus' baptism was an event that came at the beginning of His public ministry; and at that time priests had to be 30 years old to serve in the priesthood. Jesus, who sought to influence those religious leaders of Israel, had better reception as a "teacher" (priest) since He also had reached the age prerequisite (according to the law of Moses) for religious teachers.

Also, in the nation of Israel one became an adult with adult responsibilities at the age of 20 years. But that does not set an age requirement for baptism either.

Here is what God does require of one who is to be baptized:

- That he be old enough to believe in and confirm God and the death and resurrection of His Son (Heb. 11:1 and 6, Mark 16:16, Rom. 10:9).
- That he be old enough to comprehend his sinful self (carnal nature) (Rom. 3:23, Rom. 7:14, 24-8:1).
- That he be old enough to know what sin is and that he understand what repentance means (I John 3:4, Luke 13:3, and Acts 2:38).
- That he be old enough to understand the need for conversion and understand the meaning of living a spiritual life in Christ (Acts 3:19 and Rom. 6:1-2).
- That he be old enough to understand obedience to God (Rom. 6:16).

This automatically requires that one be able to confirm his faith, understand and accept God's plan of Salvation and His standard for living.

There is really no way that we can set an age limit for baptism. However, it does fall the

(Continued on page

Parents + Teenagers Problems?

by Jewell Linville

How many "head-ons" did you have with your parents last week, teenager?

Who was to blame?

Now, be honest!

"Oh, Unfair parents, huh?"

"Well, perhaps you're right! You know, parents DO seem awfully hard to deal with sometimes. Wonder just what makes 'em 'tick,' anyhow??"

You know, when I try to "figure out" someone, I always attempt to place myself in their "shoes." Ever tried it? —Placing yourself in your parents' shoes, I mean? Let's try it now. . . .

Maybe we had better take it from the beginning—way back when you were born. . . . Wonder what Dad and Mom thought about that first time they saw you? They probably counted your fingers and toes like most new parents do "just to make sure" that you had 10 of each! But no doubt your entire future loomed before their eyes—maybe they even wondered what you would be like right now, THIS VERY DAY! Then, realizing that the kind of teenager and adult you would turn out to be depended upon them—upon what they did even from that very moment—they were undoubtedly frightened, concerned, maybe even worried, for fear that they would fail somewhere along the line and lose you in the end to something most undesirable.

As you began to grow to the man or woman you are today, your parents set their pattern for your development—physical, emotional, and spiritual. Yes, just as they suspected—they made mistakes. They "failed" from time to time. How they handled those failures probably did more for your development, good or bad, than all their successes put together! ,,

SO! Your parents failed! WHY? —They failed because they tried! Because they tried to do what was best for YOU! Because they loved you, that's WHY! So through your parents' failures, you found out your parents were not perfect like you thought they were when you were just a "babe in the cradle."

SO! What did you do about it? More important, what ARE you going to do about it NOW?

REBEL! OF COURSE—THAT'S THE ONLY WAY!!

Rebellion is the "way out" for the kids of today! "Besides that, man, you're not 'in' unless you're 'out' with your parents!" Recently the parents of a young man were telling me of the seeming "disappointment" of their son because they didn't show a distaste for his now "long" hair style. They chuckled, "He's afraid we'll like it!" So typical!

Oh, my dear young people! Stop for a moment and consider—which relationship needs to be the most "enduring" and "endearing" — that with your PEERS or your PARENTS? Which relationship is going to affect your future the most? — *You ARE living for the future, aren't you?* How much—how VERY much—the success and happiness of your future are dependent upon your TODAY! PLEASE don't "blow" it! Give YOURSELF a chance by giving your parents a chance!

Who knows! You might even help guide your parents some. They don't really claim to know

"everything" like you sometimes think they claim. They are, as you have already discovered, quite human and quite susceptible to mistakes. But remember, they HAVE more years of mistakes behind them, a fact which gives them more experience in helping you avoid the same mistakes. They can't know THEIR tomorrows, but they can know something about YOUR tomorrows for they have already walked that road.

You say, "Yea! But things are different today!" Grant it, they are! The girls wear faded blue jeans instead of silk ribbons; the guys wear pink shirts instead of white; the hair styles are different; and the slang is different, but underneath that exterior, the heart beats the same, the blood surges through the body on the same route as it always did, and the emotions react to the same stimuli as Dad's and Mom's did!

"Groovy, huh?" —Dad and Mom actually had the same drives, desires, temptations, and struggles you are having! They may even be able to help you "truck through" yours a little more smoothly if you will only let them help you steer the wheel a little!

How about that? Your parents actually restrain you in order to make things easier for you! Paradoxical, isn't it? Nevertheless, 'tis true! To allow you to go your own way and do your own thing 100% of the time would only mean disaster for you! So instead, Dad and Mom "stick their necks out"

knowing full well that it may mean a retaliation ("rebellion" if you please) from you that causes real hurt to them.

By the way, do you ever try "talking" with your parents? Now, I mean talking WITH them—not AT them! You might be surprised at how much good can come out of a real heart to heart communication! I don't mean that you only have to be on the receiving end, either. Your parents are apt to learn a lot from you, too. But how are they going to do so if you don't give them a chance? It's up to you to help bridge that communication gap. Sure! Not all parents are "easy" to talk "with"—some of them want to "have their say" but not let you have yours. Parents do need to be educated to this matter of two-way communication, too; but then, if we can't write to the parents, what better place to start than the "other side"—YOUR side! You may even be surprised and find Dad and Mom receptive to the idea of a good "rap" session! You'll never know until you try!

Then, the next step is in order—ACTION! It is like you young people say: "We are tired of just 'talk, talk, talk,' we want ACTION!" After you and your parents talk it all out, it is important that you both start working toward the goals you set for yourselves. This means that if you are going to prove to your parents that you are the mature person you have told them you are, then you're

going to have to work toward showing them just that!

I challenge each of you to put forth your best effort to establish a really fine relationship with your parents. It will be a tremendous help to both you and your parents, and after all, some day you'll be a parent, too! So put on those shoes! And don't be afraid to remark to your friends, "Say! my parents and I have a really neat relationship. Wanna know how I do it?" You may lead many to a joyous and beautiful relationship with their parents that they never thought possible.

Surveys show that hundreds of thousands of students in America threaten suicide. Some 10,000 try it, while over 1,000 succeed! These same surveys prove that it is largely the fault of home conditions. Sure, parents are largely responsible for home conditions, but YOU CAN HELP. As you help, you will find yourself showing more maturity which will result in the increased freedom that you have been seeking. The only difference is that then you will have *earned* it—not received because you *demand*ed it.

Try evaluating yourself according to these guidelines:

1. *Do you find it difficult to "identify" with your parents?*

Try being real friends with your parents. Join some of "their" activities. Do things "together." (This doesn't mean that you have to spend ALL your time with them—but they do deserve a part of you.)

2. *Do you think it childish to show affection to your parents?*

Try it anyway! Do not think it childish to let your parents know that you love them! They will respond beautifully to this—they really do crave your love as you crave theirs (even if you don't admit it!).

Recently, one young father of an 18-year-old daughter told me, following a tender bit of affection from her, "That is the first affection she has shown me in two years. It makes me want to run outside and 'bawl' like a baby!" Could YOUR parents be experiencing the same lack of affection from you?

3. *Do you feel your parents impose unfair restrictions on you?*

Try to be kind about your parents' seeming unfairness. Request a chance to share your feelings with them—*calmly!* Showing disrespect for each other never solves anything! Explain to them why YOU feel they are being unfair—But just be sure that you have analyzed the problem beforehand as to whether they really are unfair or if "their" way might really be best for you.

I am reminded of the young high school girl who had accepted a date with a nice-looking young man with a rather "shady" reputation (although she reports that he had always treated her with utmost respect) only to have her father bitterly oppose the date and

refuse the daughter the right to go. Sure, she was hurt; perhaps the father handled the situation a little unwisely and roughly; but obviously, he did have her best interest at heart. Consider for a moment if you were the parent of a "sweet young thing" whom you loved very dearly. Would you have allowed her to take such a chance?

Better is the parent who restricts because he cares than the parent who restricts not because he cares not!

4. *Do you receive the "third degree" (especially you girls) when you return home from a date?*

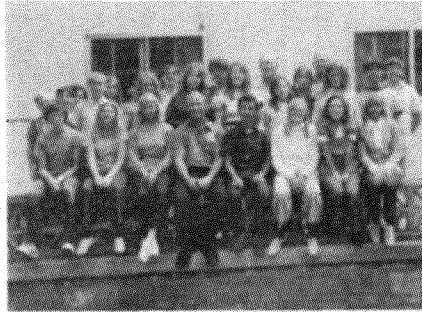
How do you react? "You just don't trust me!" maybe?

Try this neat little trick: Share a few of the details about your date with your parents before they have a chance to put you on the witness stand. Giving them certain details before the date as to where you are going, how long you will be there, where you are going afterward, etc., will surely serve to relieve their minds and make them feel like trusting you. You may even find them asleep when you come home! Then a little "sharing" of the fun you had is a good way to let your parents know that you are not doing anything you are ashamed to tell them. To receive their trust you must prove yourself trustworthy!

5. *Do your parents disapprove of the company you keep?*

(Continued on page 32)

WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN *but*



Thirty FYCers, 3 sponsors, and a pastor are proud to announce the birth of a new Denver FYC. The strong, healthy new FYC was born August 18-20 at a weekend youth retreat!

WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN, the theme of our retreat, was first a discovery and then a determination for the 35 young people who shared a weekend of mountaintop experiences atop an awesome Colorado mountain.

As we sang choruses, attended workshops on Christian Witnessing and FYC organization, and listened to sermons, we discovered that truly, "TODAY, WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN!"

We discovered how very much a spirit-filled FYC group can accomplish... we discovered how very many "friends of mine are lost in sin and cannot find their way"... we discovered how very desperately that "above all else this world needs Jesus"... and we discovered new ways to Reach Out to those about us, new ways to be a better, stronger FYC, and new depths of love for our God, our Saviour, each other, and for our fellow man.

And because of these many discoveries we determined to become a "born-again" FYC... we determined that "WE'LL WORK FOR JESUS TIL THE VICTORY'S WON"... we de-



termined "TO A LOST AND DYING RACE, WE'LL TELL GOD'S LOVE AND GRACE"... we determined to "win the lost at any cost"...

"AND WITH GOD'S HELP, WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN!"

Reported by Lawanna Wilhelm

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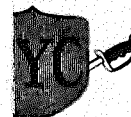
Friday	Sabbath

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Indiana 46806



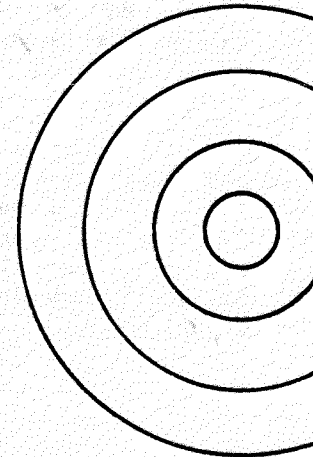
folders write to the
office, P. O. Box 2370,
01.



Faithful Youth Challengers

2 T₄ G

A Daily Goal



For A Life with
A Daily Purpose

Name _____

Address _____

"A chapter and prayer a day keep the devil aw

MONTH _____ YEAR _____

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	F

You may begin the 2T4G Program at any time. If you should miss a day in the program, you may (and should) start again on the next day and mark your new starting point.

2T₄G Program

**"Take
Time
For
God"**

Send your con

Mrs. Marilyn
6008 Moeller I
Fort Wayne, I

For additional
National FYC O
Denver, CO 802



shall always follow **IN HIS STEPS**



"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow in his steps." 1 Peter 2:21

A group of about 60 young people and adult sponsors became "One In The Spirit" for an exciting Labor Day weekend spent at Lake Wister State Park in Oklahoma. The occasion for the gathering was a joint retreat sponsored by the Fort Smith, Arkansas, and the Wister, Oklahoma FYC's. These young people and their adult teachers and counselors spent three glorious days "Sitting at the Feet of Jesus" learning how to walk "IN HIS STEPS."

Throughout the entire retreat we were admonished and encouraged to walk in the steps of our Saviour. We learned just how we should follow "IN HIS STEPS."

—when Elder Dale Lawson, our retreat guest speaker from Hammondville, Alabama, spoke to us at a Friday night campfire service and a Sabbath morning worship service . . .

—when Brother Jerry Lundeen from Las Cruces, New Mexico, taught our Sabbath morning youth lesson and led us in group discussions on Sabbath afternoon . . .



—when we presented a rally **IN HIS STEPS**, on Saturday night and then viewed a touching film, **IN HIS STEPS**...

—when we formed prayer groups, went into God's country, and prayed, shared burdens, and committed ourselves to follow down that lonely road Christ traveled...

—when Brother Paul Linville from Wichita, Kansas, led in an early Sunday morning devotion...

—when we talked and prayed with friends, teachers, counselors...

Truly, God was with us in a mighty way, and He showed us the beautiful place we will reach if we faithfully follow in the steps of Jesus. We left the retreat with praises to God on our lips and in our hearts, and perhaps most important, we left with new and determined decisions to follow **IN HIS STEPS**.

This retreat has been wonderful and

It's peaceful right now. I'm sitting here under a tree on some scraggly old grass. There's the distant sound of hustle and bustle in the assembly room. A soft breeze is tickling my neck. Things are happy. And again I feel that wonderful peace. That's the way it's been during most of the retreat. Oh yes—there were some dramatic moments in the prayer groups we had. Some of us were still and knew that "He is God" as the Scripture says. Some of us cried, having been very much moved by the film, "In His Steps," and the beauty of our prayer together. Others, myself for one, took new hope and made decisions concerning the things we know we must do. It's hard to beat these two feelings I've found here this weekend—the peace and the presence of the living God.

has really helped me a lot. It's been a blessing to talk about God, our problems, and to learn how to be a better Christian. It's wonderful, too, to meet new friends and enjoy Christian fellowship. The counselors have been a real blessing. I thank God for this wonderful privilege of being at Youth Retreat.

Ruth Overman
Joplin, Missouri

This retreat has been a wonderful blessing to me. It came at a good time (the first week of school). It has brought me a lot closer to God...the services were just great! We had good discussions on various subjects that are sometimes a problem to us. One of the highlights was watching the film, "In His Steps." This film will help us all in our Christian witnessing. This is the first retreat Wister FYC has taken part in, and we're thankful for the opportunity to be a part of God's work. I thank God for a very wonderful weekend.

Lynn Bullard
Wister, Oklahoma

Stuart Peterson
Hammondville, Alabama
(Continued on page 33)

MINUTEMAN

by Marcia Woods

QUICK! Grab a pencil and a sheet of paper. List the doctrines of the Church of God (Seventh Day) and support them Biblically.

Tough, huh? If the youth of the church were surveyed, the percentage of those who could successfully support the Church beliefs with Scripture would most likely be disgracefully low. Because of our need to know the Church doctrines and the Scripture upon which they are based, the following issues of Minuteman are going to revolve around the thirty-eight doctrines of the Church.

First, and very possibly foremost in our beliefs, is the Bible, its divine inspiration and its necessity in our lives. How do we know that it is inspired? It witnesses of itself. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God" (II Timothy 3:16). Peter tells us that it is not the work of man but the product of the Holy Ghost (II Peter 1:20-21). And in John we read that God's Word is truth (John 17:17).

We believe that the Bible is infallible in teaching because of Paul's words to Timothy in II Timothy 3:16. His Word is eternal according to I Chronicles 16:15 and Matthew 24:35.

Poetry, adventure, and history fill the pages of the Bible, and in it lies the most wonderful story ever told—the plan of our redemption. Within its covers are the greatest love stories of all times—the story of Isaac's love for Jacob, Ruth's love for her husband's family, Jacob's love for Rachel and, most of all, God's love for us in that He sent His only Son to die for us. From His Word we receive inspiration, peace, joy, wisdom and a greater understanding of His love.

How can we doubt the inspiration and necessity of God's Holy Word?

II Peter 1:20, 21

II Timothy 3:16

Proverbs 30:6

John 17:17

Matthew 24:35

Revelation 22:18, 19

Hebrews 4:12

I Chronicles 16:15

The Chance and the Challenge

"If I just had a chance to..." is the frequent wish of everybody.

"If I just had a chance to re-live those years."

"If I just had a chance to witness to him when no one else was around."

"If I just had a chance to put my plan into effect."

"IF I JUST HAD A CHANCE... IF I JUST HAD A CHANCE!"

This captivating thought is so often in mind that the chance itself is overlooked!

"Well, you have the chance!" It was the voice of Elder Morrow as he spoke in the morning devotions the first day of school. "You have longed for the chance to attend Midwest. Now you have it!"

Several of the students are here this year almost to their amazement. They felt drawn to Midwest, but were not sure they would ever come. Praise God they are here, all 21 of them. Of course, not all of them went through that time of uncertainty, but several did.

"You now have the chance, but you have it just one time," Elder Morrow went on to say. "You have this one chance to make your year—this year—at Midwest a wonderful experience. Just one chance to share in such a beautiful relationship. Just one chance to make the spiritual and intellectual progress that you came to make."

The determination to meet this challenge was abundantly expressed in the first Friday night Sacred Hour Service with the local congregation. Elder Kiesz arranged the service so that each student had opportunity to give his testimony and express something about why he came. It was wonderful to hear them speak.

"I'm here because I'm a Christian," sounded natural enough, but there was more. "I believe the Lord wants every Christian to be a soul-winner, and that's why I'm here."

"I'm here because I saw in one of my friends a sweet peace and real joy that I wanted to have in my life. So when she invited me to come to Midwest with her, it didn't take long to make up my mind to come."

"I'm here because of a flat tire." What? Couldn't this young man get any farther than Stanberry? Is he here against his will? "Two years ago I had a flat tire and had to walk. It was a long

walk. I had been burdened for the ministry for a long time; and while I walked, I talked with the Lord. By the time I got home, I knew I had to come."

"As many of you know, I'm here because others cared enough to be friends to me. I found in these fellows something I'd never known before. When I was converted and accepted the truth, I knew the Lord was calling me to the ministry."

"I'm here to learn how to witness to my friends. I want to learn how to win them to the Lord."

"I'm here because I found in the public college I attended last year that I just don't have what it takes to meet the slick talk of those who are so much smarter than I am and always have a smooth answer to everything."

What a marvel! First, Elder Morrow challenged the students to make good use of the chance they have. Next, the students challenged the teachers to lead in spiritual development that will permit fulfillment of worthy desires. Surely God was behind it all!



MIDWEST STUDENTS AND STAFF

Beginning from left to right: Front row: Max Morrow (Director), LaNell Griffin, Lorraine Wagner, Mike Vlad, Pat Jones, Larry Moldenhauer (faculty). Second row: Ollie Lawson (cook and dorm supervisor), Vicki Overman (faculty), Cindy Gibbs, Karen McNeal, Tim Youngs, S. J. Kauer (faculty). Third row: Vernon Dickinson, Ron Overman, Gerry Schlenker, Donnie Lawson. Fourth row: Marcia Woods, Kathy Thomas, Don Lawson (cook and dorm supervisor), David Neighbors, Jerry Camero. Fifth row: Ginger Youngs, (dorm supervisor), Steve Kurtright, Tom Orr, Paul Severance, Ray Youngs. Back row: Eddie Crawford, David Robinson.

Though from 13 states, the 21 students were immediately bonded together by the sharing of their common burdens. The 11 ministerial students had no "edge" on the others in this burden. Neither did the 14 men have any more concern for lost people than the women. It was just tremendous!

On the first Monday evening of the school year the "college family" met for Quiet Time in the chapel. It was a period of sharing again—sharing some of the inspiring happenings of the summer and some of the burdens for others. A sequence of audible prayers brought the meeting to a sweet conclusion with staff and students on their knees together. Thus, the mood was set for each Monday evening's Quiet Time.

God being our helper, this promises to be a year of unexcelled blessings. The key to it all is prayer—your prayers and ours! Won't you join with all of us at Midwest as we pray and sing our way through a challenging year?

God Is Great! God Is Good!

"*God is great, God is good.*" As a child I heard this and chanted it many times, but I never realized how true it is until *now!* I am 19 years old, came from Horseheads, New York, and belong to the Methodist Church. Until a little over a week ago I had never even heard of The Church of God (7th Day), and I knew almost nothing about the Bible even though I attended church almost every Sunday.

On Thursday, August 17, 1972, Cindy, a member of the Church of God, witnessed to me and asked me to go to Stanberry with her. We were on our lunch break at a Howard Johnson's restaurant where we were both waitressing. At first I thought she was kidding, but the more we talked, the more I realized that she was really serious. But surely it would be impossible to get everything ready in just three days!!! And what about my parents and my job??? The more I thought about it, the more I wanted to go to Stanberry with Cindy. The past few weeks I had been trying so hard to find something solid to hang onto, and I was trying to find peace of mind. I thought maybe Stanberry and God would be the answers I needed, so after much talking, rushing around, and mass confusion, I made it to the airport. *I could hardly believe that Cindy and I were actually on our way to Stanberry and Midwest Bible College.*

Now that I'm here I'm sure it is God's will for me to be here. Even though I'm not a member of the church, everyone

welcomed me with open arms and loving concern. I've found a job doing work I enjoy, and because of His help I'm a much happier person.

Two weeks before Cindy asked me to come here with her, my fiance and I broke our engagement. In those two weeks I tried drinking, smoking and going out with "the crowd." I just couldn't find the happiness and peace of mind I was looking for. God knew that I would want "out" of that kind of life. So, He put Cindy in the right place at the right time. God knew long before those two unhappy weeks that I would never come here unless He showed me the way. He also knew that if He didn't intervene between my fiance and I, I would not have come here either, and He wanted me here. God works in mysterious and wonderful ways, and His ways are always best for us even though at times we may not think so. I still don't know what God's purpose is for my life. Maybe He wants me to be here at Midwest and then go back home and tell my friends and loved ones about His Word, or perhaps He has another plan for me. Whatever it is I know that God is always protecting me, loving me and guiding me in the right path.

GOD IS GREAT. GOD IS GOOD. And I thank Him for this great opportunity to be here in Stanberry learning His gospel and learning the way He wants me to live.

Kathy Thomas

A new MBC student

Thank God for the Chance

The seven months I spent at Midwest Bible College were an answer to prayer. Many wonderful blessings and lasting fond memories are the result of the days I spent there.

After several years of unsuccessful attempts to attend Spring Vale Academy, God finally provided a CHANCE for me to attend Midwest. It was after my second year of college and during the time I was waiting to be accepted at a State College that God opened up the door that took me to Midwest. I followed God's leading and went to MBC, and while there I was able to put together many "loose ends" of my Bible knowledge. The Biblical Foundations Course helped me to discover the beautiful harmony of the Bible.

The many fine friends and the deep spiritual blessings I received while there will remain a part of me forever. I thank God for the chance I had to attend Midwest.

Tom O'Haver (1970 MBC Student)
Tacoma, Washington

Spring Vale Water Draws Students

by Cecyl and Elden Fischer

The fame, or infamy, of Spring Vale Water is widespread. Such is the quality of our water that we have considered changing the school colors from blue and white to blue and gray! Indeed, the story of the woman at the well has special significance for Spring Vale residents because water that comes not from the well sounds like a good thing. In John 4, Jesus told the Samaritan woman, "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give thee shall never thirst: but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." Thus on August 24, students began arriving at Spring Vale to avail themselves of this spiritual water that God gives so abundantly here.

In accordance with the thought of young people coming to SVA for a spirit-filled life, we prepared a rally on the theme, "FILL MY CUP, LORD" which was presented September 2. On the stage was a replica of Jacob's well constructed on the baptistry so that water could actually be dipped from it. People who came for water were able to let a bucket down into the well (baptistry) and draw real water. The students were asked to think of themselves as coming to Spring Vale with a purpose and leaving Spring Vale prepared to help others find this water which is not from a well, just as the Samaritan lady went home to spread the word.

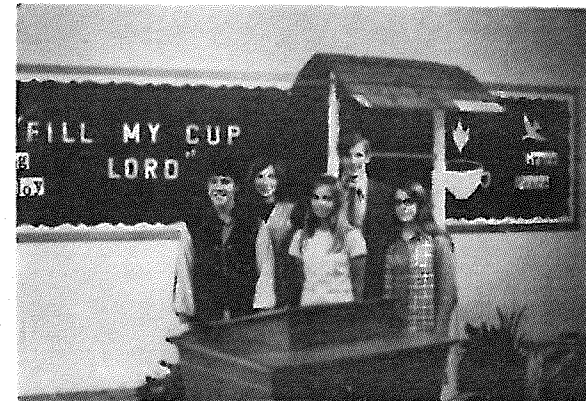
When all of this year's students had arrived (some by car, some by bus, some by plane, and one afoot!), a total of 52 students made up our 1972-73 family. Of the students, 34 reside in the girls' dorm and 18 reside in the boys' dorm. Twenty-three of these students were here last year, and nine are descendants of former SVA students. Also residing in the boys' dorm is our new boys' dean, Lee Williams from Alabama. Our new teachers are Miss Ropp and Mrs. Koivisto.

During the first weekend students gathered around a campfire for get-acquainted activities and worship—we enjoyed the outdoor fun and fellowship until Michigan mosquitos (one of our more abundant crops) forced us to retreat to the girls' dorm lounge. On Labor Day weekend we had our Welcome Banquet with the Kuryluk family, Tim, Kevin and Donna Weir as special guests to

present the banquet program. Elder Kuryluk was also in charge of special services throughout the weekend.

The following weekend, September 9, the students had a chance to ride our new (used) bus for the first time. We used the bus to go rest home singing on Sabbath and to go miniature golfing in Lansing Saturday evening. It was a welcome improvement not to have to wonder whether the bus would need to be pushed to get it started. Gone (we hope) are the experiences of riding "Old Lightning," Spring Vale Bus No. 1.

Now that Spring Vale's spiritual water has drawn students, Spring Vale students are drawing water—at early morning and evening worship, before classes, during Friday night and Sabbath services, and in monthly revival services.



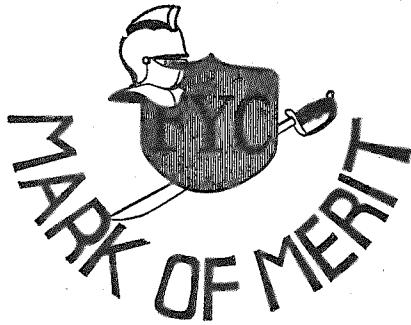
Teen Guidelines

(Continued from page 7)

years pass and the poor remain poor both physically and spiritually. Apostle Paul said we should "remember the poor" (Galatians 2:10). How often do YOU think about the poor?

It is vitally important that we let the love of Christ emerge from our hearts and be seen in our actions! Yes, we should help the poor . . . the Bible states so! However, we can give all we have to the poor and still

be lacking if it isn't given in the spirit of true love (I Corinthians 13:3). Teen-ager, young adult, or whoever you are, *now* is the time to open your eyes to the fact that Jesus was 100% right when He spoke of the poor—we have the poor even today. Get involved! Reach out as an individual or as a group by supplying the poor near you with financial help, food, clothing and, most of all, let them feel the love of Christ when they take hold of your helping hand.



By Nolan D. Rincker

In the democratic countries of the world, national leaders are chosen by the majority of the citizens of those nations. The majority decides how their government should operate and what legislation is needed in their country. The minority then must abide by the dictates of the majority. So, in reality, the minority has no power. However, on the world scene in recent months and years minority groups have banded together to confront the majority, and these minority groups have become a powerful force to contend with.

During the recent Olympic games in Munich we saw how a minority group of Arab guerillas shocked the whole world with their brutal acts of terrorism against eleven Israeli athletes. Here in the United States during these pre-election months we see many minority groups banding together and exerting great political pressure.

The Bible tells us that the majority is not always right, and nowhere is this fact better exemplified than in Matthew 7:13-14. Evidence is given that the majority do not and will not accept the truth of God's Word and live by His plan. The Bible also tells us that the minority can cause great "tidal waves" in the majority's sea of control. Apostle Paul, perhaps the greatest of all minority group leaders, and his group were famed as "those who have turned the world upside down" (Acts 17:6).

We FYCers are also members of a minority group. We need to band together, become active, and let the majority know that they are traveling down the wrong road in life. We need to have it said of us that we are turning the world upside down! FYCers, **LET'S GET WITH IT!** *Let's turn our towns, our cities, our states upside down with the gospel message!* Let's be a powerful, persistent, active group and press on until we become the majority!

I'm happy to announce that another FYC group has joined in Mark of Merit participation—with the addition of Houston, Texas (English) FYC, we now have 30 participating groups. This

is really encouraging! You have only one more quarter to complete this year, and you should finish it with real determination and zeal to "keep Christ in all you do in the remainder of '72!" The third quarter reports should have reached each FYC by now, but if your group hasn't received one, please let me know immediately.

With such a large number of groups participating in Mark of Merit now, you'd think I'd be satisfied... but I'm not! In 1973 I would like to see the number of participating groups grow to 40 or more. If your FYC is pondering joining Mark of Merit, ponder no longer! Join today!! If your FYC is newly organized and doesn't understand the program, please write me soon so I can help you become organized and active before the new year. My address is P. O. Box 2370, Denver, COLO 80201.

In a previous report I stated that Jud, North Dakota had joined the program. My apologies to this FYC group for calling it by the wrong name; Jud, North Dakota FYC is one and the same as the Alfred, North Dakota FYC.

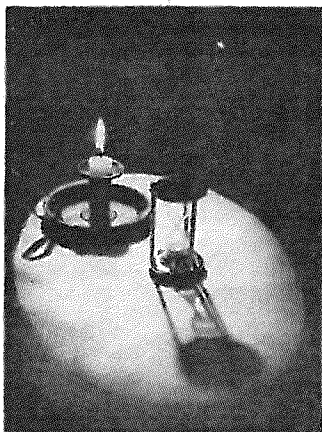
The groups listed below are reporting their second quarter totals:

	Merit Points	Bonus Points	Amount Sent	Goal
IOWA				
Marion	300	460		\$45.00
MISSOURI				
Joplin	243	204	\$15.00	\$60.00
Stanberry	183	10	\$60.00	\$102.50
OKLAHOMA				
Midway	160	75		
TEXAS				
Houston (English)	95	60		\$33.00

SUGGESTED PROJECT OF THE MONTH

Have a money-making project and send half of the proceeds to Midwest Bible College and half to Spring Vale Academy. These schools need our help so that they can continue training students for Christian service.

"We who have strong faith ought to shoulder the burden of the doubts and qualms of others and not just to go our own sweet way. Our actions should mean the good of others—should help them to build up their characters" (Romans 15:1, 2, PHILLIP'S TRANSLATION).



2T₄G-

Take Time for God

by Marilyn Current

RESPECTING AUTHORITY

"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God" (Romans 13:1).

PRAYER: "In this day when open disrespect of authority is so popular and prevalent, Dear Lord, please give me the grace to be "old-fashioned" enough to respect those in power and position over me from school teachers up to the President."

RESPECT FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

- Oct. 1. Rom. 13.** Thought: Be subject to higher powers—they're ordained of God.
- Oct. 2. John 18.** Thought: Consider Christ's attitude toward officials who cruelly mistreated Him.
- Oct. 3. John 19.** Thought: Christ defended Himself and His beliefs without mistreating others in any way.
- Oct. 4. Ex. 22.** Thought: Don't curse the ruler of your people (verse 28).
- Oct. 5. Matt. 22.** Thought: Give the government its due—such as taxes (verse 28).
- Oct. 6. Matt. 17.** Thought: Jesus paid

- tribute even when He didn't agree with the custom (verses 25-27).
- Oct. 7. Col. 1.** Thought: Higher powers were created by God (verse 16).
- Oct. 8. I Sam. 24.** Thought: David wouldn't harm God's anointed (verse 6).
- Oct. 9. I Sam. 26.** Thought: Again David wouldn't harm God's anointed (verse 9).
- Oct. 10. I Pet. 2.** Thought: Honor the king (government officials), and submit to man's ordinances (verses 13-14, 17-18).
- Oct. 11. II Peter 2.** Thought: God will punish those who despise government (verse 10).
- Oct. 12. Titus 3.** Thought: Be sub-

ject to the higher powers (verse 1).
Oct. 13. I Tim. 2. Thought: Pray for those in authority (verse 2).

EXAMPLES OF GOD'S APPOINTMENT OF RULERS

- Oct. 14. I Kings 19.** Jehu and Elisha (verse 16).
- Oct. 15. Num. 11.** The seventy elders (verses 16-17).
- Oct. 16. Num. 27.** Joshua (verses 18-23).
- Oct. 17. I Sam. 9.** Saul (verse 16).
- Oct. 18. I Sam. 15.** David (verse 28).
- Oct. 20. Dan. 4.** Nebuchadnezzar.

RESPECT FOR SUPERIORS

- Oct. 21. Eph. 6.** Thought: Be obedient to your "masters" (superiors) (verses 5-8).
- Oct. 22. Col. 3.** Thought: Obey your "masters" (overseer, foreman, boss, etc.) (verse 22).
- Oct. 23. I Tim. 6.** Thought: Give honor to your "master" for God's glory (verse 1).
- Oct. 24. Titus 2.** Thought: Don't talk back to your "masters" (verse 9).

RESPECT FOR RELIGIOUS LEADERS

- Oct. 25. Acts 23.** Thought: Notice Paul's attitude toward being reviled by a religious leader (verses 4-5).
- Oct. 26. Num. 12.** Thought: Note the example of the seriousness of speaking out against a religious leader.

Oct. 27. Heb. 13. Thought: Respect religious leaders (verse 7).

COMMANDS CONTRARY TO GOD'S WILL

- Oct. 28. Acts 4.** Thought: God's way should be chosen above man's way (verse 19).
- Oct. 29. Acts 5.** Thought: Obey God

- rather than men (verse 29).
- Oct. 30. Acts 7.** Thought: Stephen was bold for God's cause.
- Oct. 31. Dan. 3.** Thought: God has power to deliver us from ungodly rulers, if **He so chooses** (verses 17-18).

NOTE: In a case where we are forced to disobey authority (when we obey God rather than man), it is still our obligation to do so **respectfully!** (Not with name-calling, rock-throwing, sit-ins, or picket lines!)

There are several completions to report this month. **CONGRATULATIONS** to the following FYCers who are faithfully meeting the standards of 2T4G:

- CALIFORNIA**—Barbara Ogren (2nd quarter).
- INDIANA**—Marilyn Current (1st quarter).
- MICHIGAN**—Glenda Caswell (1st quarter), Deana Coulson (2nd quarter, 2nd year), Janet Meadows (3rd quarter, 2nd year), Mike Meadows, (2nd quarter, 2nd year).
- MINNESOTA**—Mary Carol Davis (3rd quarter), Joanne Hamlin (3rd quarter), Deanne Jackson (1st quarter, 2nd year), Bob Salazar (1st quarter, 2nd year), Danny Salazar (1st quarter), Judy Salazar (1st quarter).
- NORTH CAROLINA**—Sandra Young (3rd quarter).
- OREGON**—Marietta Duncan (1st quarter), Peggy Williams (1st quarter).
- SOUTH DAKOTA**—Sharon Meier (2nd quarter), Shirley Meier (2nd quarter).

(Continued from page 17)

Analyze the situation from both sides. Are your friends being a bit disrespectful in your parents presence? Are your parents judging them because of some variation in their "dress"? Perhaps you can cause a "meeting of the minds" by having a sincere talk with both parents and friends urging their indulgence or perhaps understanding and reforms if necessary. Then again, perhaps your friends aren't really what you even desire—perhaps the situation does call for a change in companions. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?" (II Corinthians 6:15).

(Of course there is such a thing as developing friendships with unbelievers for the express purpose of witnessing—just be sure that you do the influencing, rather than being the one influenced. Rely on Jesus for strength.)

6. Do your parents want to plan your future FOR you?

Perhaps Dad thinks you have just gotta be an engineer like him when you had really rather be a pharmacist? Well, sometimes you just have to be your "own man." You are the one

who has to live your life, so this is one time that you can't make your decision "just to please Dad." However, you can ease the blow somewhat by showing him that you really do respect him and his profession, but it is just not for you. Help him to see YOU—the individual—and at the same time maintain his own self respect. Be bold—but be kind.

Ready to meet the challenge? Are you man (or woman) enough to do it? If you aren't, then neither are you man enough to "untie the apron strings" just yet!

True, there are no "pat" answers to every problem. But the secret lies in proper attitudes coupled with an honest desire to do your part to establish a workable family unit.

As a Christian, that "proper attitude" should be a natural part of your life. If it isn't, rely on the power of God through Jesus Christ to make it so!

Sadly, you may be one of those who has unconverted parents who really "just don't care!" If so, hold to the end of the line tightly—Christ is pulling with you and He will see you through! Perhaps your situation is such that warrants help from some qualified person whom you respect and trust. Take your problem to your pastor, your counselor, or maybe your friend's parents who impress you as the "ideal parents."

Above all, PRAY—pray for wisdom during these years that have proven to be the most short on such. Pray for your parents. Pray for yourself. PRAY. "... The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man (teenager) availeth much" (James 5:16).

And remember, along with prayer, the key to a proper and communicable relationship between YOUTH and parents is understanding—from both sides! Discover what makes Dad and Mom "tick," and let them know what makes you "tick," too! START YOUR EXCITING ADVENTURE TODAY! HAVE A HAPPIER TOMORROW!

THE ENLIGHTENED ONES

(Continued from page 9)

since He did, why not also accept the way He did it as explained in His Word? If we discredit any segment of the Bible, how could we be certain the rest, including the plan of salvation, is truth? The creation story along with the rest of the Bible must be taken in faith—faith in The One and Only God Who has the power to change our lives since He made our lives.

TELL ME, PLEASE

(Continued from page 13)

ministers' responsibility to make sure each baptismal candidate is able to understand the gospel of Jesus Christ. Often, very

young people want to be baptized but do not comprehend the Christian way of life, temptations, trials and the work of the Spirit of God. Young people who do not have an understanding of these things should wait for baptism because for some young people, being baptized too young has been a source of bitter disenchantment with the Christian life. We must make sure young people understand the deep and lasting significance of baptism before we baptize them.

... IN HIS STEPS

(Continued from page 20)

Being able to just "get away from it all" and meet and worship with Christian youth and leaders was worth so much to me. This was the first retreat for some of the young people from our group, and I hope we will be able to encourage others to come in the future, because great blessings can be found at Youth Retreats.

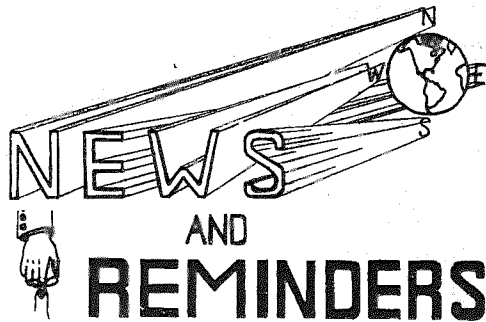
Lyneta Noble
Wichita, Kansas

RETREAT WAS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE. CHRISTIAN LOVE AND FELLOWSHIP ABOUNDED. THE SERVICES, DISCUSSIONS, AND DEVOTIONS BROUGHT GREAT SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS TO ME. I'M TRULY GLAD I CAME, AND I THANK GOD FOR SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY.

Sally Pate
Red Oak, Oklahoma

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 1973 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!

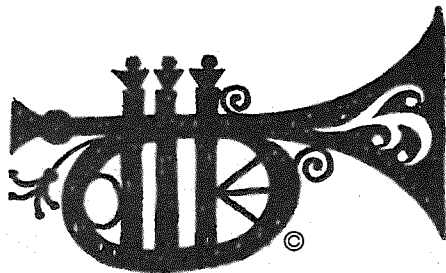
You have about 6 weeks to come up with that winning idea! Sometime before November 15, write your choice for a motto along with a paragraph of no less than 50 words and no more than 100 words telling why you feel that your motto would be a good one for 1973. Your motto entry should be no longer than 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," and our present motto,
 "Christ in All We Do in 72."

No entries postmarked later than November 15 will be considered. Mail your entries to the "1972 Motto Contest," National FYC, P. O. Box 2370, Denver, COLO 80201.

A committee will select the winning motto which will be introduced in the January, 1973, issue of AIM.



ANNOUNCING . . .

It's a real joy to welcome these four young people to the FYC, and we pray for God's guidance in their lives:

Jim Craig
 Wichita, Kansas

Marlene Knight
 Bennington, Oklahoma

Debbie Holderby
 Muskogee, Oklahoma

Kathy Thomas
 Stanberry, Missouri

Be of Good Cheer

Be cheerful! Give this lonesome world a smile;
 We stay, at longest, but a little while.
 Hasten we must, or we shall lose the chance
 To give the gentle word, the kindly glance.
 Be sweet and tender: that is doing good;
 'Tis doing what no other good deed could."

—Unknown

Proverbs 16:24 says "Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones." As children of God, we need the ability to be amiable. This trait when cultivated will be coveted because it smooths our way through life as well as smoothing the ways of others. Cultivating a happy disposition will help us trust in God more fully and be of good cheer. As we seek a worthwhile path in life, we want to remember, "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding (Proverbs 3:13). Her (happiness) ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace" (verse 17).

When we are cheery, our troubles, problems, sorrows and pain seem distant. Our health even improves. "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine" (Proverbs 17:22).

"Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27).

"...whoso trusteth in the Lord, happy is he" (Prov. 16:20).

by Cindy Gibbs