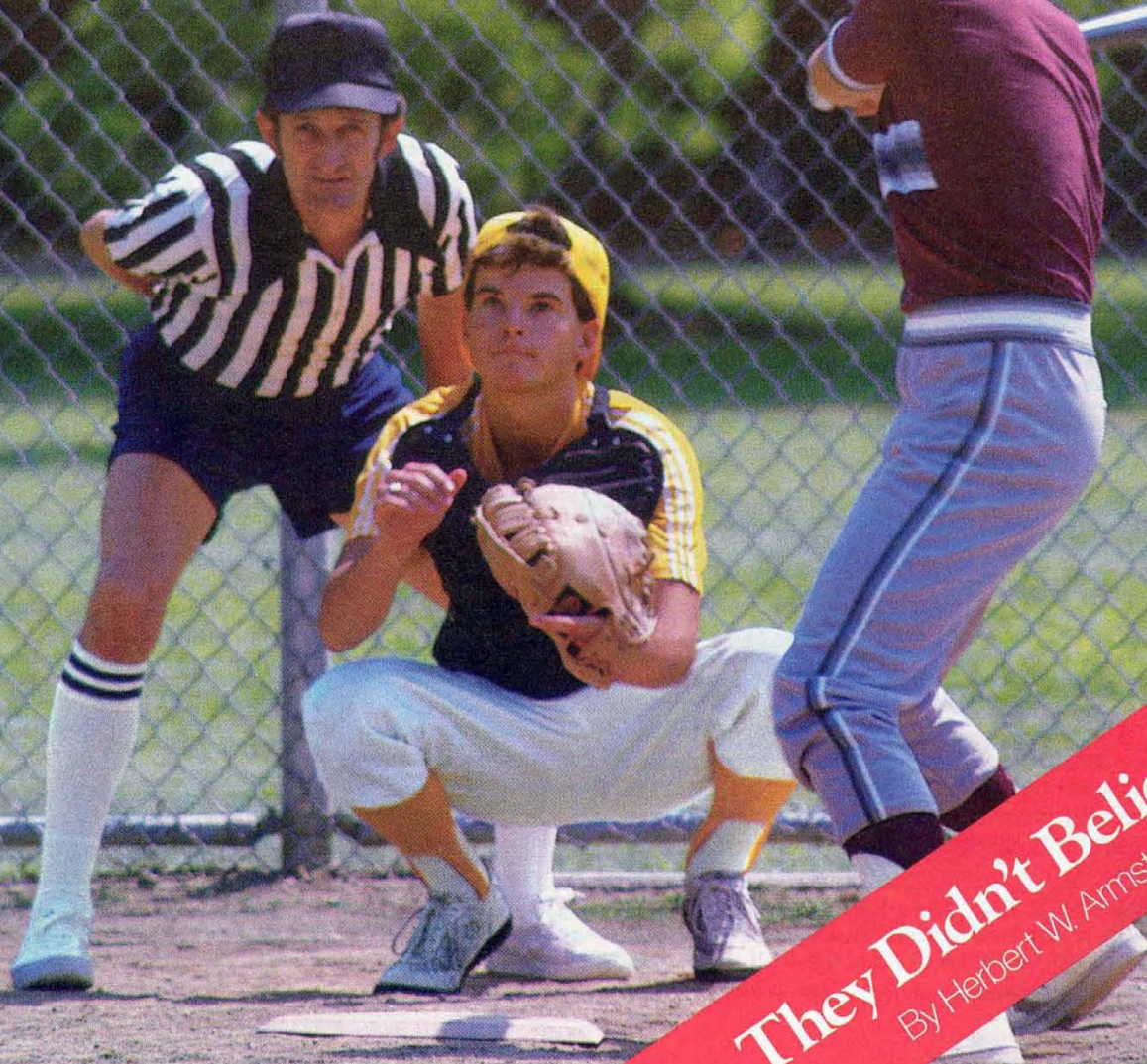


SEPTEMBER

# Youth & 4

**Sports-**  
**More Than**  
**Fun and Games**



**They Didn't Believe It**  
By Herbert W. Armstrong



September

# Youth 84

VOL. IV, NO. 8

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## Contents:

They Didn't Believe What He Said	1
Putting Your Love to the Test	3
Today's Curious Cults: Could You Be a Victim?	5
News That Affects You	7
"My Teacher Doesn't Like Me"	10
Kathy and Denise Conquer Their Silent World	11
What's It Like to Be a Teen in the Big Apple?	13
Sports — More Than Fun and Games	16
Journeying by Jeepney	19
Ideas Plus	20
Teen Bible Study: Think Before You Speak	23
Dear Youth 84	25
Reader By-Line: "Hey, Look Me Over"	27
By the Way . . . Teens and Booze — the High Price of Abuse	28

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF: **Herbert W. Armstrong**  
MANAGING EDITOR: **Dexter H. Faulkner**

ASSOCIATE EDITOR: **Mike Bennett**  
GRAPHICS: **Michael Hale**  
EDITORIAL AND GRAPHICS STAFF: **Matthew Faulkner, Nathan Faulkner, Robert C. Taylor, Lowell Wagner Jr., Eileen Wendling**  
CONTRIBUTORS: **You the reader**

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**COVER:** Muscles tense as the batter prepares to swing. Sports such as softball have thousands of fans. But how many really know the major purpose of sports? Read, "Sports — More Than Fun and Games," starting on page 16. Photo by Nathan Faulkner.

# Letters

## Made graduation a success

Thanks so much for the article "Make Your Name a Good One" in the May issue. A member of the class of '84, I was chosen to give a farewell speech and based it on your article. It went over well; many people complimented me on the "original theme and unique topic."

I would like to extend these compliments to Mr. Ronald Kelly, whose "original theme" helped to make my graduation a success.

Fian Brum  
Columbus, Ohio

I can't say enough about your magazine. Many of your articles have answered questions I've wondered about and guided me in my spiritual life.

I found the articles, "Good Advice From a Movie Star" and "Sexual Lust: Defusing the Dynamite," especially helpful, since I was having trouble with relationships with boys. And the article, "Make Your Name a Good One," was helpful in writing my valediction speech for graduation, which I will be attending in less than five hours.

Renee Hanson  
South Beloit, Illinois

## Underlined everything

I finished reading the last article in the series on "Love, Marriage and Sex" today and I wanted to let you [Herbert W. Armstrong] know just how grateful I am to you for sharing your immense knowledge.

I really needed those articles — I underlined everything, practically, in red in every article. There were things I read in there that I'd thought about, but had never been thinking in the same perspective as you did and I needed that; I needed another viewpoint to help me see things differently and most of all, [to see] their *vital importance*.

Lesley Ashfield  
Lexington, North Carolina

## South American subscriber

Last week I got a glimpse of two *Youth 84* magazines and I immediately became interested. Colorful, topical and informative, these magazines are of inestimable value to teenagers and youth workers.

I am engaged in youth work in school (I teach), church and my community and would therefore be greatly helped by being put on your *Youth 84* mailing list.

Remington Williams  
Linden, Guyana



# They Didn't Believe What He SAID

By Herbert W. Armstrong

**T**he more I travel around the earth, the more I see the sickening conditions in the world today and the more I glean from history, the more convinced I become that the real root *cause* of all of humanity's troubles and evils may be summed up in six words: "They didn't believe what He said."

And they still don't believe what He says today!

Suppose you had suddenly come into consciousness — just now having been suddenly created the first human being. Your Maker is sitting beside you, revealing to you *vital knowledge* so direly necessary for you to know.

He tells you that He has made you and the wife He has created beside you so that you can reproduce your kind. In due time you will populate the earth with millions of your offspring.

## A way of life

He reveals to you that He has provided for you a WAY OF LIFE that will CAUSE and produce PEACE between individuals, groups and nations that shall arise. This way of life is an inexorable spiritual law as automatic and relentless in continual action as the law of gravity, which He demonstrates to you.

It is the basic law of His

government by which He rules the vast universe He has created. It is the law of love. It will produce peace, happiness, joy, abundance, universal prosperity, and if you and your children choose it as your way of life, He will give you also the gift of eternal life, which He has not yet given you.

This way of life is symbolized by a tree in the midst of the beautiful garden where He has placed you, called the tree of life.

But also, in case you decide to reason out your own way of life — taking to yourself the decision and knowledge of what is good and what is evil, then there is a second very special symbolic tree that also produces fruit. The tree is the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. But your Maker FORBIDS you to take of this tree, which means disobedience to His law, and if you choose to disobey and take of that tree, you shall die, since the penalty of SIN (the transgression of His LAW) is DEATH.

Would you BELIEVE what your Maker said? Would you?

Adam and Eve didn't.

God their Creator had given them His way of life. If they rejected it, turning to their own way, it would bring sorrow, curses, unhappiness, suffering — and death!

But Satan, in the symbolic form of a serpent, came along and said God lied. They would not surely die. They were immortal souls. He reminded them of the superior human minds they had. They could work out their own way of life — and after all, could they believe God? They only had His word for it.

They must have said: "Yes, that's right! After all, how can we be sure? All we have is God's word for it. We'd better *make an experiment*, and be sure! Let's put it to the test. Let's *take to ourselves* the decision — the knowledge of what is good and what is evil."

## The first experiment

They made the first scientific experiment.

Even today, the scientific method rejects revelation as a source of knowledge and understanding.

Adam and Eve rejected divine revelation, as does modern science today. They didn't believe what their Creator said! And it



The God who created the earth also created a way of life that causes peace and happiness.

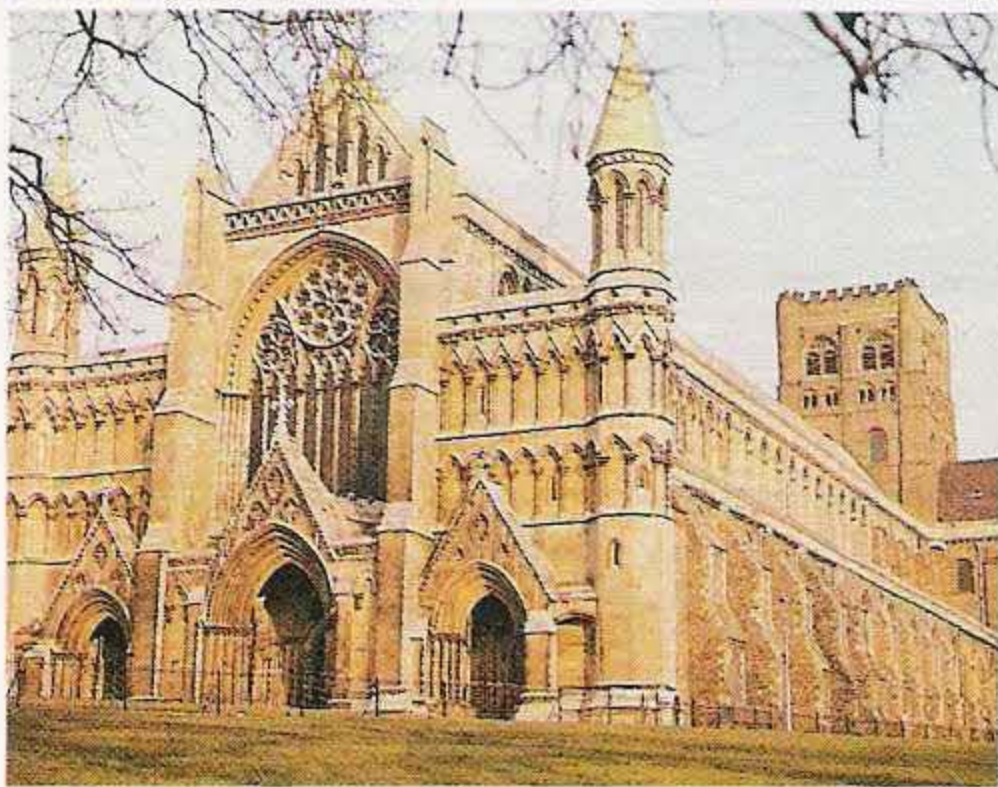
NASA Photo



God shows us  
the way to world  
peace . . . But men  
do not believe  
*what God says,*  
and so we have  
no peace.

was “when the woman saw [observation] that the tree [of the forbidden fruit] was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise [human reason], she took of the fruit thereof [she made the experiment], and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat” (Genesis 3:6, Authorized Version throughout).

Some 4,000 years later, God sent Jesus Christ, His Son, into the world with a message from heaven. This message was essentially the same as He had instructed the first two humans.



Why don't modern science or professing Christianity take God's Word literally? (Photos: Warren Watson; Youth 84)

It had to do with God's government and rule over them, of His way of life that would cause every good and with the gift of eternal life.

But again, humans (with few exceptions — 120 in all) did *not believe* what He said! They called him a liar!

Let me quote: “As he [Jesus] spake these words, many believed on him. Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word [His MESSAGE], then are ye my disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:30-32).

They answered Him sarcastically and hostilely. They were Abraham's descendants and were already free.

“I know that ye are Abraham's seed,” responded Jesus, “*but ye seek to kill me*, because my word [His Gospel message] hath no place in you.”

They believed on the Messenger — but they *rejected His message* — they didn't believe what He said!

Jesus continued, “But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth [His Gospel message], which I have heard of God.”

Later, Jesus said, “And because I tell you the truth, *ye believe me not. . . why do ye not believe me?*” (verses 45-46).

#### Christ's message suppressed

Before the end of the first century that message was suppressed and another false gospel substituted. Christ's message was not proclaimed to the world again until now — in the latter half of the 20th century!

But God saw to it that His word — His message to mankind — was inspired and put into His *written Word*.

But even today, the religions that have appropriated Christ's name preach about the PERSON of Christ — about the MESSENGER — but they do not proclaim His MESSAGE — His *true Gospel*.

And in many basic doctrines they teach the very opposite of

what Jesus and the first apostles taught. They condemn the customs Jesus observed, and observe customs Jesus and the Bible condemn.

Today, a professing adherent of “Christianity” will say, in surprise, “Why, you surely don't take the Bible *literally*, do you?”

Humans have written books by the millions. People read and take *them* literally. They take them to mean what they say — and say what they mean. But the Bible? They can't seem to *believe* it can mean what it plainly says.

For example, the Bible says, “The wages of sin is DEATH” (Romans 6:23).

But professing Christians will say, “But death doesn't *mean* death — it means everlasting life in hell fire!” God SAYS “death” — but they don't believe what God *says* — and since this is His word, they don't believe His message!

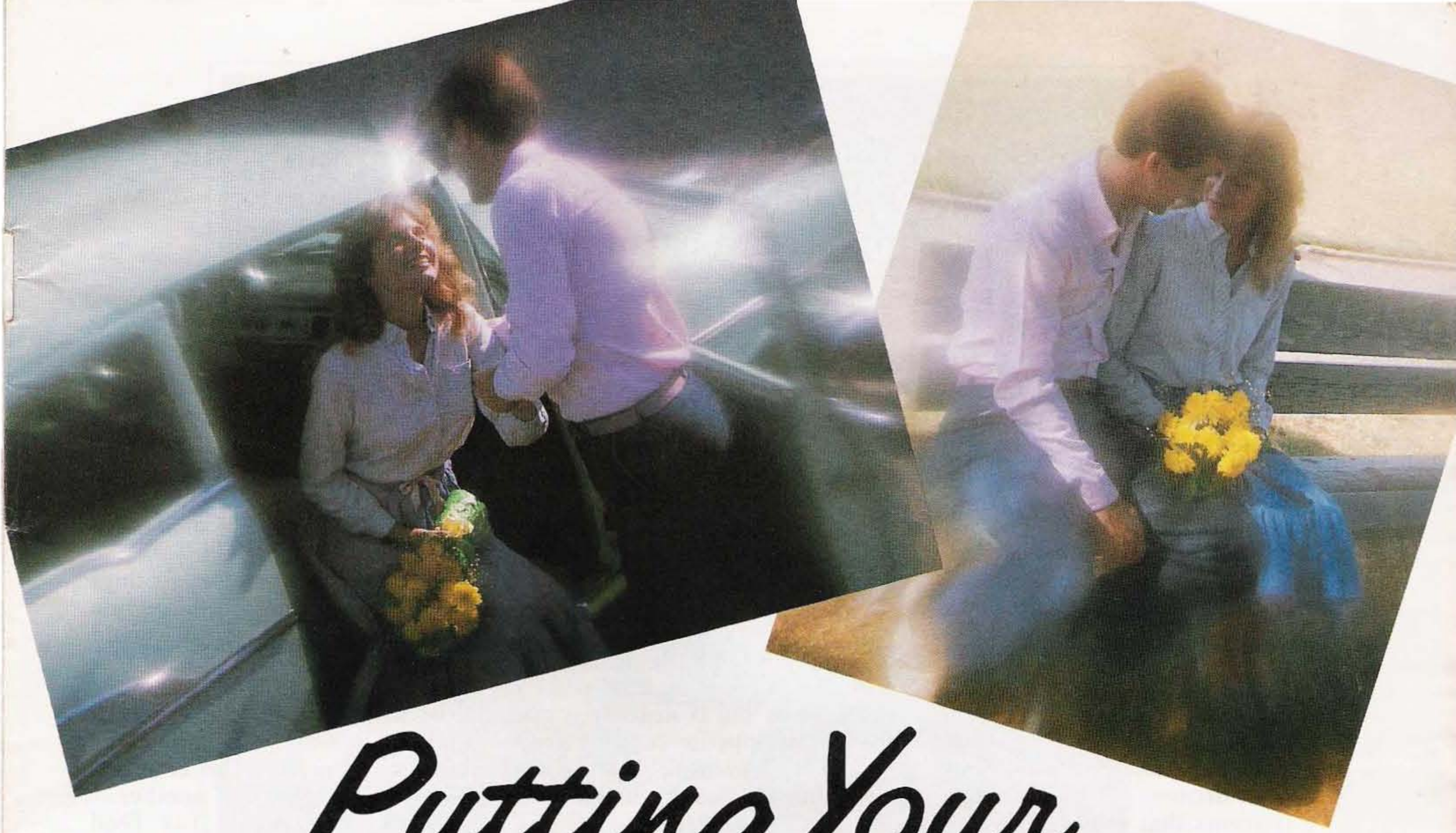
This same verse says, also, “But the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Do they believe eternal life is a gift of God? No, they believe we are immortal souls who already *have* eternal life. But God says in His Word, “The soul that sinneth, it shall die” (Ezekiel 18:4). God says that — but professing Christians don't believe what He says! He says the same words again in Ezekiel 18:20.

God said the same thing to Adam and Eve, “In the day that thou eatest thereof [of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil] *thou shalt surely die*” (Genesis 2:17).

And in verse seven God says He “formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man [made of the dust of the ground] became a living soul.” To this “soul” God said he would “surely die” if he disobeyed, taking the forbidden fruit.

It was Satan who said, “Ye shall NOT surely die.” Today those who profess Christ believe  
(Continued on page 27)





# Putting Your **LOVE** to the Test

By Bernard W. Schnippert

*Every day we hear songs about the paradise of true love and pain of love gone wrong. How can you be sure, in advance, what real love is?*

**"**It feels so right, it can't be wrong."

"If loving you is wrong, I don't wanna be right."

"What is love, anyway?"

Hundreds of songs have been written about love, right and wrong, and the feelings that go with it. And for good reason. It's a major part of life.

And right love, with the right person and at the right time, can bring a lot of happiness. But wrong love can bring a ton of trouble instead.

## **Right or wrong?**

The story often goes something

like this: A teenage girl of, say, 15, falls in love with an older guy of, say, 17. They feel so good about each other, so swept up with romance and love, that they do things that cause their parents concern.

They date steadily. They begin kissing and necking, and maybe more. Then one day they go further and have sex or run away and get married.

And why? Because they are in love — or are they? Their parents don't usually think so. Arguments fly back and forth between parents and children about if it's really love. Eventually everyone is confused and hurt.

Who is right? Or, stated another way, what is real love, and how do you know when you're in it?

Even if you're not in love now, someday you'll want to know for sure whether what you are experiencing is real love. Your future happiness depends on it.

You need to be prepared!

The answer to the question of whether you are in love obviously depends on what real love is. But that is the problem. Most people, including most adults, simply don't know what love is.

Love, as the Bible shows, is an outgoing concern for the one loved. It is a selfless desire to give

Photos by Hal Finch



# Right love, with the right person and at the right time, can bring a lot of happiness. But wrong love can bring a ton of trouble instead.

of self for the benefit of the other.

But, even so, there are obviously different types of love. For example, you no doubt have a family love between you and your brothers and sisters (sure you may argue, but you still have that deep family bond). Also, you have strong feelings for your close friends that could also be called a type of love.

## Romantic love

But in those cases the feelings you have are far different from your feelings about the girl or boy of your dreams.

It seems that romantic love is much different from other kinds of love. Just what is this thing

that is called romantic love?

First, let's understand what it's not. It is not the power surge of warmth people feel when they are near the person they think they love.

It is not the excitement, the rising pulse rate, the blushing, the dry mouth, the butterfly stomach or the perspiring brow of the person in love.

It is not the daydreaming about the person when he or she is gone, nor the staring at the person when he or she is near. It is not the loss of appetite or fitful sleep of a girl thinking of her prince charming or a boy, his dream girl. No, it is none of these.

These things are merely physical and emotional responses and feelings. They are triggered by our body chemistry when we're in the presence of a person of the opposite sex who is appealing.

They might be triggered by a good figure or body build. Or by a pretty or handsome face. Or by other things you are not even consciously aware of — but that still have the effect of causing excitement.

These things are just feelings. Happy, exciting, powerful feelings, yes. But just feelings, not love.

## Feelings plus love

Romantic love is a lot more than just these feelings. It also includes something much deeper. That something is love as it was defined earlier in this article — an unselfish outgoing concern toward the one loved.

So romantic love really isn't that different from other kinds of real love. Oh, it includes the additional element of the romantic feelings mentioned above. But these feelings are not the love. The love isn't just some surface thing that

fades after a while. Love is much deeper.

But this is where many people go astray. They confuse the feelings and emotions of romance with love. Or, they decide that since they have the feelings of romance, they must also have love.

Believing that these feelings are a sure sign of love is a tragic mistake. Love can and should produce these feelings of romance, but these feelings can also exist without love. They can exist merely because the mind and body of one person react emotionally to the presence of another.

This is natural, for God intended romantic attraction to spark interest that eventually, if the people are compatible and old enough, might develop and grow into true love and lead to marriage. This takes time.

## The qualities of love

Since romantic feelings do not ensure that it is real love, how can you know when it is real? What are the qualities of a real, right kind of love?

First, real love must be selfless.

A person with real love wants the best *for* the other person, not *from* him or her. Real love isn't concerned with getting affection, gifts, attention or anything else from the person, but in trying to do what is really best for the one loved.

Second, real love survives troubles.

The type of love that comes and goes with the first misunderstanding is not love. It is just a passing romantic feeling.

Third, real love remains steady over time.

Right here is where many people planning marriage should stop and think. A courtship that

*(Continued on page 26)*







Photos by G.A. Belluche Jr.

# Today's Curious Cults- COULD YOU BE A VICTIM?

By Sheila Graham

*They're mysterious, they're seductive, they can destroy your life.*

**M**y first visit to the famous town was disappointing.

Hollywood, glamorized for decades, is old and tarnished now, but it's still a big tourist attraction. It was difficult to get through the crowds and read the celebrities' names on the stars in the sidewalk.

As I reached the Chinese Theatre, an oversized charter bus stopped to disgorge yet another load of people onto the streets. Then, above the general din of the crowds, the bus and other traffic, I heard music. The people ahead of me began moving aside to allow a brightly costumed group to dance its way through.

The young men and women in the group weren't Oriental in race, but had made themselves to strangely resemble some Eastern culture in their hairstyles and clothing. They didn't seem to mind me photographing them. Smiling wanly as they twisted and turned, their tambourines rattled in some kind of exotic rhythm.

One of those strange new cults I'd heard about, I thought. Probably akin to some of the people that had accosted me at the airport a couple of times.

I made my way on past the theater, crossed the street and began reading the names of the stars back down the other side of Hollywood



# How can you make sure you won't be tricked into becoming part of some movement that could be harmful to you or your family?

Boulevard. A few blocks down the street, a man in his early 20s stepped out and handed me a pamphlet.

Not again, I thought. Sure enough, he was representing another strange religious movement. "No, thank you, I'm not interested," I said, and continued on.

What appeal do these groups have for young people, I wondered.

## What is a cult?

Have you ever thought about whether you could be persuaded to join a cult? Most new recruits are in their teens or early 20s. What is a cult anyway?

The label *cult* is being applied to almost any group, religious or nonreligious, that seems different or hard to understand. The word has almost lost its meaning.

*Cult* is not necessarily a bad word, although it is used that way today. It actually means a particular belief and those who follow it.

To avoid confusion, therefore, the words *group* and *movement* will be used in the remainder of the article to define some of the new, mind-numbing, character-destroying factions on the scene today.

## Could you be tricked?

How can you make sure you won't be tricked

into becoming part of some movement, religious or otherwise, that could be harmful to you or your family?

Many guidelines could be given, but if you follow a few basic principles, you shouldn't have to worry about being enticed into some destructive group against your will.

We live in an age of stress and rapid social change. All of us have low points in our lives. Certain transitional periods such as right after graduation from high school or college, or after a death in the family or a divorce, can bring feelings of emptiness and purposelessness. These times are when we are most susceptible to pressure from others.

Though you may feel an urgent need to belong to a "special" group, to escape depression or loneliness, this is not the time to make snap decisions about major changes in life-style.

If you are approached, firmly decline to listen to a religious or political sales pitch. If they continue to pressure you, they are being rude, not you.

Practice saying no. Beware of invitations that are unclear in explaining exactly what is going to happen if you accept. Sex also may be used as a lure.

Some of these groups trick individuals into being subjected to a weekend of brainwashing techniques. These techniques, such as denying sleep, privacy and food, are designed to weaken the will so the prospect can be drawn step by step into the group's beliefs. Some groups even hide their true identities behind front organizations until their recruits are more fully indoctrinated.

Later, new members are kept so busy working long hours for the group that they don't have time or are too tired to think for themselves.

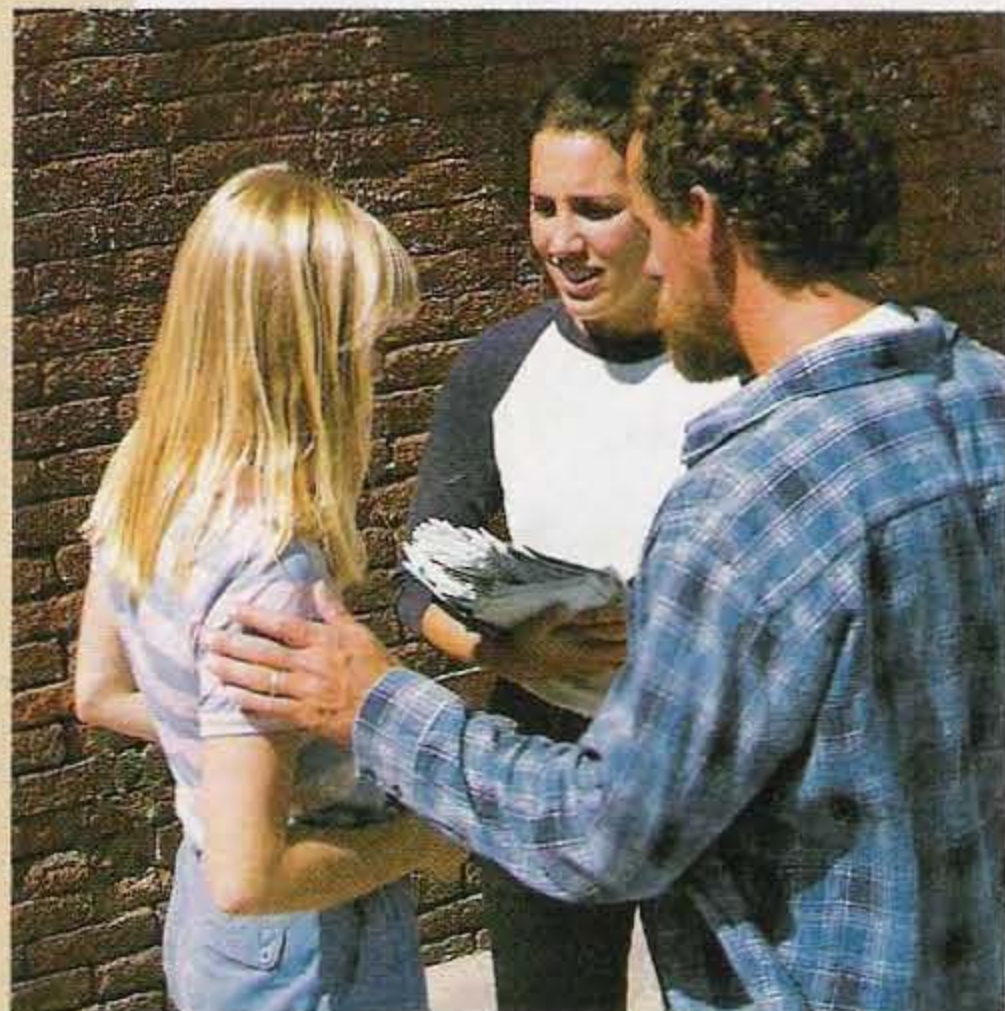
## God's guidebook

God has given us a guidebook — a standard that we can use to tell if a group, or an individual, is truly His representative. In the Bible we are told to prove all things. Therefore any person who tries to pressure you into joining without allowing you time to learn what is taught or what the group's actual goals are obviously is not of God.

Some groups deny members any contact with their families. Is that God's way? No, God says to honor your parents.

When people become adults, they sometimes do change their viewpoints about religion, but that certainly shouldn't mean that they don't telephone or write and visit their families. It does not honor parents to completely cut yourself off from them.

This law from God to honor your parents is included in the Ten Commandments in your Bible. These commandments, magnified by Jesus Christ in the New Testament, can be used as a checklist to keep you (Continued on page 26)







# The Panda Fights for Survival

- The world's favorite teddy bear — the giant panda — may be starving to extinction.

Mainly because of interference by man, only about 1,000 giant pandas are left in the wild. All of these are confined to three Chinese provinces.

The numbers are being further reduced by a natural event. The panda's specialized diet consists primarily of arrow bamboo shoots. But this bamboo is beginning a rare flowering cycle in which the edible shoots dry up and die. New plants that come because of this cycle may take another 10 years to mature.

Some pandas are starving to death. Others, in an effort to survive, have begun eating grass and leaves from other plants. Many of these pandas are left

weak and disease prone because of poor nutrition.

Researchers are looking for a good substitute food that is easily produced and acceptable to the animals. So far, they have had little success. The other major obstacle to saving the pandas: They haven't reproduced successfully in captivity. There is little chance of replenishing their numbers unless this can be done.

A \$3 million project based in

Wolong, China, is looking for ways to save the pandas. Researchers, attempting to feed the animals, scatter meat throughout the panda preserve in Wolong. Pandas will eat the meat if they can't find bamboo.

Workers have also rescued many pandas that were in danger from injuries or malnutrition.

Will the giant panda survive? Only time will tell. If it does become extinct, one thing is certain: It will be greatly missed.

— By Robert C. Taylor □

## New Law Raises Drinking Age

- Alarm at the number of teens dying in alcohol-related automobile accidents has caused the U.S. Congress to take action.

In July, the Congress passed a law that will raise the drinking age to 21 nationwide.

Supporters of the new law feel it will help save

as many as 1,250 teenage lives each year.

Young people (ages 16 to 24) are involved in 44 percent of all



alcohol-related traffic deaths in the United States, even though they account for less than 20 percent of the total miles driven in a year.

Congressman James Florio said, "The 21-year-old drinking age is a straightforward and proven way to save lives." President Ronald Reagan called the deaths a "slaughter" and said, "It tears up the fabric of society by bringing grief to families, guilt to friends and loss to the community."

Each state will be responsible for raising its drinking age to 21 by 1986. States that don't will lose federal highway funds.

This new law is part of a rising global awareness of the number of young people using alcohol. Many governments are taking steps to prevent its abuse.

The West German government has made attempts to curb the number of young people involved with alcohol. It is estimated that more than 180,000 West German young people are alcoholics.

The number of teenage alcoholics in Great Britain doubled between 1965 and 1980. Many of the young people — often as young as 14 — slip illegally into pubs to do their drinking. "There is nowhere else to go," one teenager complained to a reporter. "You have to visit pubs if you want any social life."

In France, a country that has had a problem with a high amount of alcoholism among adults, teen drinking is again on the rise after a decline in the 1960s.

In the Soviet Union, a government report blamed a rise in the consumption of alcohol mainly on an increase of drinking among young people.

During the 1970s, the trend in many countries was to lower the drinking age. In the United States, this was partly a reaction to the Vietnam War. "Why should we be old enough to fight in a war," many young people asked, "but not old enough to

drink alcohol?"

But an alarming rise in alcohol-related deaths among young people has caused the pendulum to begin swinging the other way. One U.S. official even suggested that the age be raised to 24. — *By Lowell Wagner Jr.* □

## Harvesting a High-Tech Crop

• Larry Ansell's grandfather wouldn't recognize the family dairy farm these days. The reason? The Ansell's are among a growing group of farmers who are bringing high tech down to the farm.



They have just installed what amounts to an electronic cow cafeteria. Sensors in the feed trough monitor just how much a cow has eaten each day. If a cow tries to eat more than it should, the computer refuses to feed it. If

a cow's appetite slacks off for a few days, the computer tells on the cow to Mr. Ansell.

Cow cafeterias and dairy management computers (pictured) are just the beginning of what's being done on today's farms. What about a tractor that drives itself — guided by laser beams? Or maybe you'd like to meet a weed-picking robot.

"Things are happening so fast," Dr. Winston Brill, a leading figure in biotechnology, told the *New York Times*, "that

I have trouble sleeping at night thinking about all the new developments."

Roy Harrell, an agricultural engineer at the University of Florida, agrees. "We're getting to the point where the technology is mature enough and the economics favorable enough to justify robotics on the farm," he told *Science Digest*.

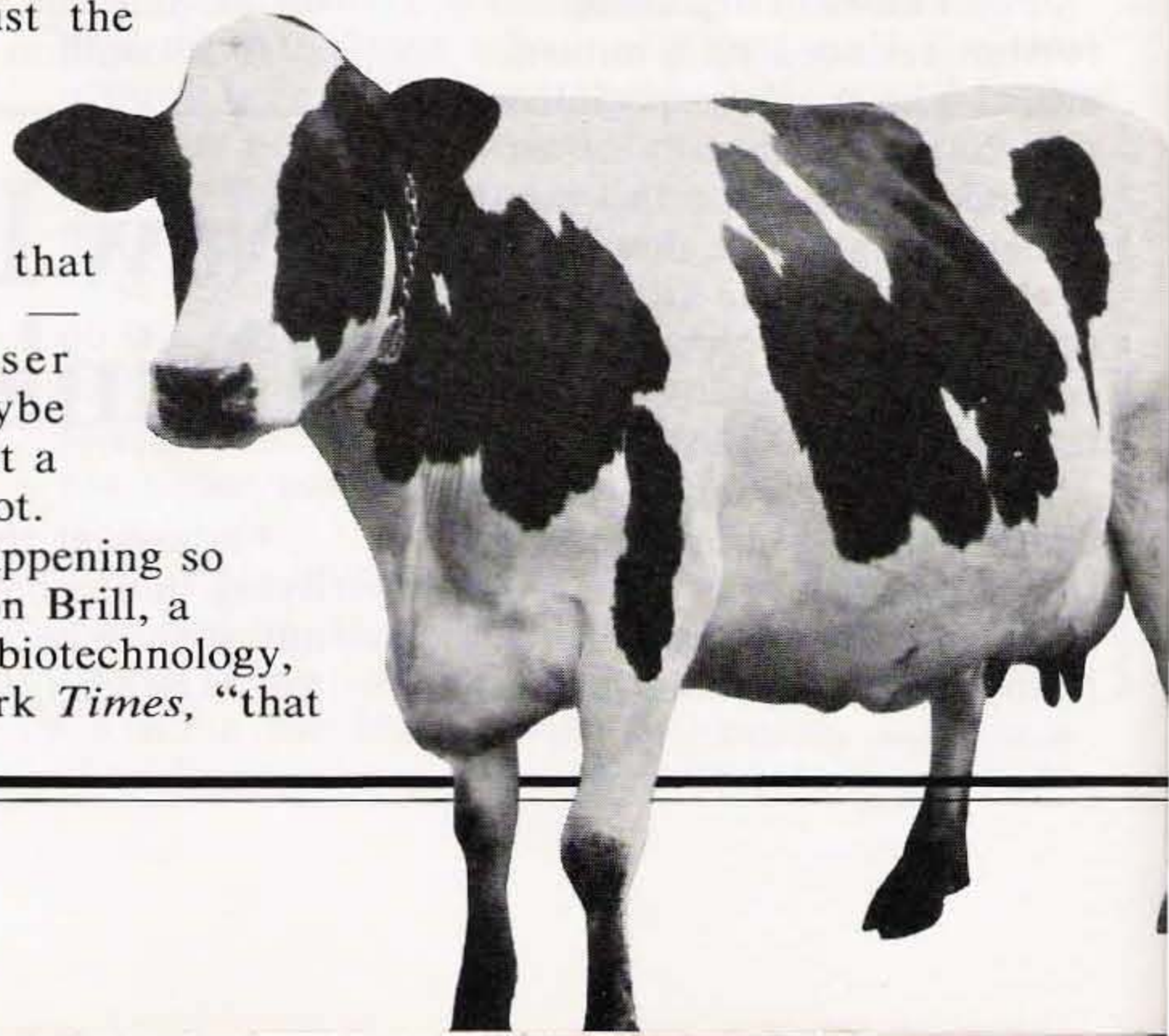
His co-worker, David Shoup, says: "In the past few years things have really taken off. As electronic devices become smaller and cheaper, our goals get more realistic."

This science fiction farming is making its way off the drawing board and into the field. Farms around the world are beginning to use the latest technology.

— Australian technicians have created a robot that shears sheep. Although it is slower than human workers, it can work nonstop without tiring. And, unlike humans, it rarely nicks the sheep.

— In California, technology has revolutionized farm watering systems. Electronic moisture and temperature sensors relay information to a computer that waters each section of the farm. On one farm, the computer will soon receive information from sensors up to 50 miles away.

— The Japanese have perfected a driverless rice harvester that can steer itself in a straight line by following a laser beam.





— In Indiana, Purdue University researchers are working on several robots, one of which will be able to amble down rows of corn, picking the weeds and leaving the corn seedlings untouched.

Farmers still have to work long, hard days, but new technology sees to it that the job can be done better and with less waste of fuel, food, water and other costly resources. — *By Robert C. Taylor and Lowell Wagner Jr.* □

once girdled the globe.

How the capitalist system of Hong Kong will function within the communist system of China is uncertain and is causing worry in Hong Kong. China has said it will turn the colony into a special region and will not interfere with its social and economic system for 50 years.

The return of Hong Kong will end British rule that began in 1841 during the First Opium War. The Treaty of Nanking, signed Aug. 29, 1842, ended the war and gave the island of Hong Kong to Britain forever as a

Territories that expires in 1997. Both the Chinese and the British agree that without the New Territories, the future of the rest of the colony would be shaky.

Hong Kong is the world's third largest financial center after New York and London. Its booming economy is fueled by a large, hardworking labor force and an economic policy that favors business.

Many of Hong Kong's five million residents aren't happy about the return to Chinese rule. They feel it will put an end to the high-powered, high-profit pace of business Hong Kong has enjoyed for so long.

But some residents feel Hong Kong will be just as profitable — if not more so — than today. One leading banker sees “a Hong Kong economy, which is industrially stronger than ever.”

The reason, he feels, is that China needs a booming Hong Kong just as much as the colony's residents do. China relies heavily on Hong Kong to get access to world markets. It already has large investments in Hong Kong banks, department stores and other businesses.

China also benefits by selling food, water, raw materials and manufactured goods to Hong Kong.

“The sun never sets on the British Empire,” was the way to describe the extent of Great Britain's power. Today, the

empire is a shadow of itself, with only a few small colonies left.

Will Great Britain someday return to the glory it once knew? To find out, write for your free copy of *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.

— *By Tom Hanson* □



# Hong Kong: The Challenge of 1997

• After two years of talks, China and Great Britain have agreed that Hong Kong will return to Chinese rule. By 1997, the Chinese flag will fly over this British colony, one of the last remnants of an empire that

place to repair its ships.

In 1860, Kowloon peninsula, on the mainland, was also given to the British. In 1898, China rented another part of the mainland, called the New Territories, to Britain for 99 years.

It is the lease on the New



# 'My Teacher Doesn't Like Me'

By Joel Rissinger

*What can you do if your teacher and you don't see eye to eye?*

**I**t seems incredible! On the first day of school you are already on the teacher's bad side.

You had a misunderstanding and now you're certain it will be a rough year. But does it have to be?

One teen told the authors of the book, *The Private Life of the American Teenager*, "If you're one of those people that just can't get along with teachers, then it's hard; teachers don't like that kind of kid and they get lousy grades."

What about you? Do you feel this way? What can you do if you're one of the many students who don't feel comfortable with their teachers?

Like it or not, as students we have to deal with teachers. Many times we don't have much choice

in which ones either. So it is important to find some way of getting along with our instructors instead of being stuck in an uncomfortable situation for the entire year.

We all have disagreements sometimes, but there are certain steps that will help in resolving conflicts whenever they occur.

## The teacher's shoes

The first step is to put yourself in the other person's shoes. Teachers are people too. They have feelings and needs just like the rest of us. If we begin to understand these needs, we will find it much easier to get along with them.

Whether or not they enjoy it, teachers must teach. Hour after hour they must face rooms full of people and try to get some information across in an effective

manner. It's not an easy job.

Listening to and trying to learn from a teacher will make his or her job easier, and nobody minds that. If you've had conflicts in the past, your attempts to make your teacher's job easier could help him or her forget those difficulties.

Another important tip in resolving disagreements is to

concentrate on the positive. This principle applies as much today as it did nearly 2,000 years ago when Paul wrote that we should think about things that are of good report and praiseworthy (Philippians 4:8). This works with teachers, too.

What if your history teacher is the most boring man you've ever listened to? Perhaps you've wondered why he didn't just hand out pillows to the students at the classroom door.

But consider this — he may have a voice and teaching style that put you to sleep, yet if you can look past that, you might find valuable and even interesting information.

He probably spent years in extensive training in this subject, so if you try to show an interest, he will most likely try to help you.

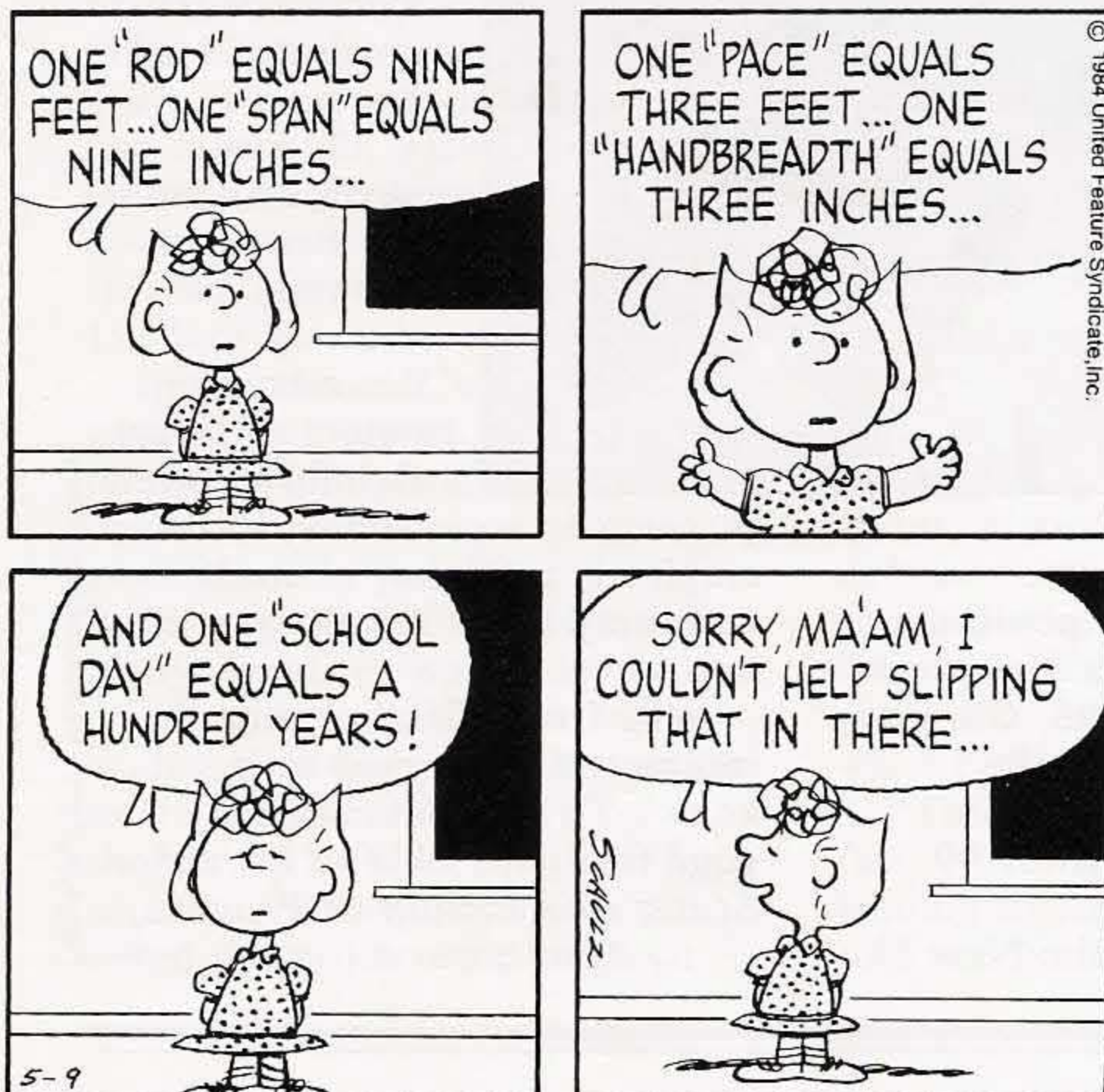
Not only will this help your grades, but you'll probably find your problem teacher won't be a problem anymore.

## What now?

What if you try seeing the teacher's point of view and look for his or her good points, but you still feel that your teacher doesn't like you? After several weeks, he or she still seems cross and upset?

First, talk to your parents and ask for their advice. You may need to talk to the teacher directly to explain how you feel. It's not easy to say, "I feel you don't like me and we don't get along," but once you break the

*(Continued on page 26)*







Photos by Victor Kubik and Hal Finch



# Kathy and Denise Conquer Their Silent World

By Dan Taylor and Victor Kubik

**K**athy Mendez is a 17-year-old from Hacienda Heights, California. Denise Ann Metzler is a 17-year-old from Farmington, Minnesota.

Though they live nearly 1,900 miles apart, Kathy and Denise have a lot in common. They both enjoy sports and other activities, both are interested in computers and, like nearly 52 million other people around the world, both Kathy and Denise are deaf.

Kathy and Denise live in a silent world that hearing people can only imagine. Things we take for granted, like listening to music or even the everyday

sounds of nature, are absent for the deaf.

The deaf members of our society are almost an invisible part of our communities. The problems of communication and prejudice as well as just living in a society geared to hearing people can sometimes seem overwhelming to the deaf.

Yet, despite the problems that confront them, Kathy and Denise have refused to give up. Instead they have sought new challenges to face and, in so doing, have lived as active lives as any teen could want.

Kathy became deaf at age 2 because of an illness while Denise was born with nerve deafness. Both girls have received special training for lipreading and speech therapy to help them pronounce words verbally. And both use sign language as their main



## When you get right down to it, courage is what Kathy and Denise are all about.

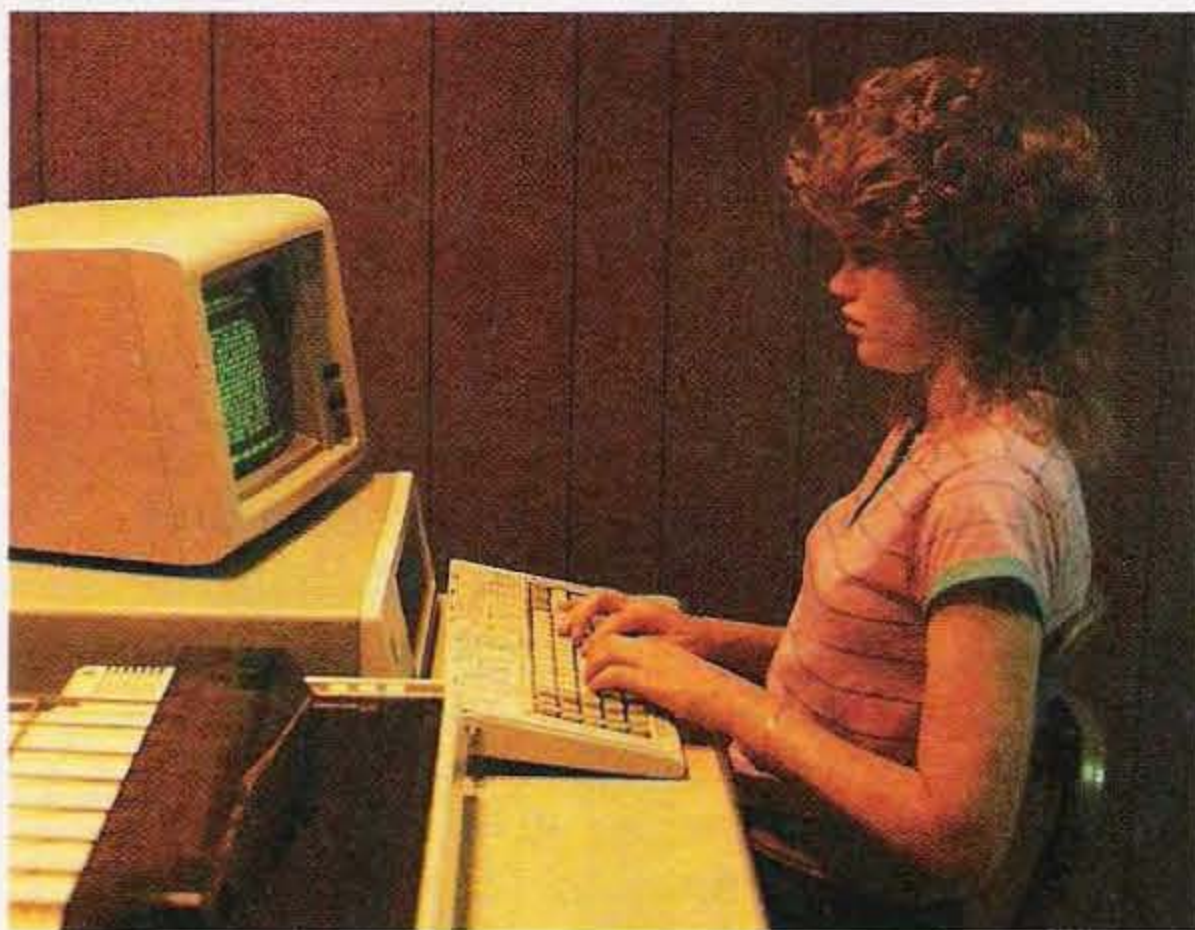
means of communication.

Like many deaf students, Kathy and Denise have been "mainstreamed" — that is, they spend part of their time in classes with only deaf students and part in classes with hearing students. In this way they can get help from teachers with special training.

Denise says she prefers the classes solely for the deaf because teachers in the mainstreamed classes sometimes go too quickly for the sign language interpreter to keep up.

Being mainstreamed in school allows both girls to talk to hearing as well as deaf teens. This also means that hearing teens can talk to Kathy and Denise and see a different way of looking at life.

"What I like about the mainstreamed program," says Denise, "is that I am able to make more friends and feel a part of what's being taught."



Although many tasks are difficult to perform without hearing, there are limitless activities that are unhindered by deafness. Above, Denise is shown developing her word processing skills. (Photo by Victor Kubik)

Many, though not all, deaf people read lips. But the deaf have also developed a language all their own: sign language. American Sign Language (ASL) is an example of several different languages that use hand symbols as a means of talking. Many public schools, community colleges, churches and deaf clubs offer classes in sign language. Even learning the manual alphabet can be a good start in communicating with deaf people.

For many unfamiliar with the deaf, approaching a person who cannot hear can be awkward — even uncomfortable. But like most deaf people, Kathy and Denise are ready and willing to help a hearing person become at ease and even carry on a conversation.

"Sometimes," says Kathy, "hearing people want to communicate with me and I tell them I can't hear. So, I ask them to write a note and they understand why. I tell them I can read notes. Perhaps they can learn sign language later on."

Denise advises people who want to talk to the deaf to "just keep trying to communicate — be patient."

### Making life challenging

Kathy enjoys sports of all kinds: swimming, softball, volleyball and others. She was also a cheerleader for her Church basketball team. When asked how she learned the routines for cheerleading, Kathy replied: "I just followed what the other girls did. Sometimes I made mistakes because I couldn't hear the beat of the music, but I kept on going."

Denise also likes swimming. She's had both Red Cross and CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) training. Besides volleyball, tennis and basketball, Denise enjoys dancing — her older sister Candy teaches her the steps. She is also a cheerleader for her Church basketball team.

Both girls are active in their

Church's youth programs. For example, Kathy received a Pastor's Award for completing a two-year program designed to promote study and participation in the arts, sports, cooking, needlework, child care and individual interest projects.

### Tribute to courage

The final requirement for the award was a written essay on the value of working for the award, and delivering the essay in the form of a speech at an awards banquet. As a tribute to her courage, Kathy received a standing ovation for her speech.

When you get right down to it, courage is what Kathy and Denise are all about. They have had the courage to put themselves on the line in a way few of us have.

As Kathy points out, there are disappointments: "Deaf people wonder what's wrong with hearing people when they don't like the deaf. They try to help the hearing people understand."

Denise also gets frustrated: "I want to relate to people my age, but can't with some because they have a hard time understanding what I say. I get frustrated when I think people understand what I said, but find out later that they really don't. I also get disappointed and hurt when young teenagers in the neighborhood make fun of my deafness. I have learned to ignore this and just walk away from them."

It is people like us — those who can hear — who present Kathy and Denise and all deaf people with their greatest challenge. It's hard to learn how to deal with people who think you are mentally or physically deficient because you are deaf. But these two girls have met these obstacles and, because of their courage, served as an inspiration to others.

We may not experience what it is like to be deaf, but we can learn to overcome our fears and prejudices. And if we are fortunate, maybe we can all one day have a friend like Kathy or Denise. We can learn a lot from their quiet courage. □





# *What's It Like to Be a Teen in* **THE BIG APPLE?**

By Rebekah Challenger

**N**ew York, New York, it's a wonderful town!

When I tell out-of-towners that I'm from Brooklyn, New York, they look at me as if to say: "You poor thing. Why are you still alive? Shouldn't you be dead or mugged or something?"

Contrary to popular opinion, New York City can be a great place to be a teen. There are so many things to do and there is always something happening. This city runs on excitement and is full of life!

Before we look at the great things about New York, let's see just how big this city really is. The New York City limits include five boroughs: Brooklyn, Queens, Manhattan, the Bronx and Staten Island.

Many people who come to New York only visit the island of Manhattan and fail to realize that the city has four other boroughs! The borough of Brooklyn, alone, has more than two million residents and is larger than all but three American cities. New York, with more than seven million residents, is the largest city in the United States.

New York attracts more visitors than any other city in the world. The humanity that pours into New York can make it feel stifling. Because New York City is so large and so full of people, it is easy for a young person to feel confused, and to get lost in the shuffle. This, however, does not have to be the case for those who have good friends and a supportive family.

The Big Apple, as it is affectionately called, is a port city blessed with many natural harbors. Each borough has at least one waterway allowing ships to dock within its harbor. This



makes New York an international crossroads with merchandise, cultures and peoples from around the world.

### Fame and history

The diamond capital of the world can be found in Manhattan's midtown district. Taking a tour of this small area with friends can be an exciting experience!

A famous financial capital can be found in Lower Manhattan's Wall Street district. The streets of Lower Manhattan are some of the oldest in the country. They are extremely narrow. (One can imagine them as country lanes, at one time.) Here, the deafening frenzy of the New York Stock Exchange can be found.

On a more historical note, you have Fraunces Tavern, built in 1719. It was here that George Washington gave his farewell address in 1783.

Living amid many nationalities is one of the most interesting things about New York.

The population increased dramatically around the turn of the century when Irish, Italians, Jews and Poles came through Ellis Island to receive entry into the United States. Their first, most memorable sight of America was the Statue of Liberty, which stands proudly in New York's harbor.

New immigrants come into our fair city every day. The majority of these people emigrate from the Caribbean, Central America, Asia and the Soviet Union. Most teens from these areas of the world adjust to their new society quickly.

People come to New York because there are more opportunities for finding work than in many other areas. Unfortunately, this is not the case for the average teen in New York. When school is over in early May and late June, the job market is usually full, if not flooded. Most young people who do not have marketable skills have difficulty finding a job.

Teens who do find work are usually employed by supermar-

Bustling Wall Street (left), Ellis Island (center) and Lower Manhattan (bottom) are familiar sights in New York. A man plays chess (right) in Washington Square Park in Greenwich Village. Previous page: Manhattan and Brooklyn bridges viewed from the World Trade Center. (Photos by Tom Hanson) Far right: author Rebekah Challenger. (Photo by John E. Brown)

kets, department stores, garages, gasoline stations, city agencies and fast-food chains.

### Teen activities

Summertime, though, has to be the best season in New York City. It is a time when everyone in New York comes out to see the sights, and to be seen.

When things get hot, many teens hang out with their friends and go to the surrounding suburbs of New York, to the beaches, pools and parks. The parks and beaches, however, can become especially crowded if the weather is pleasant.

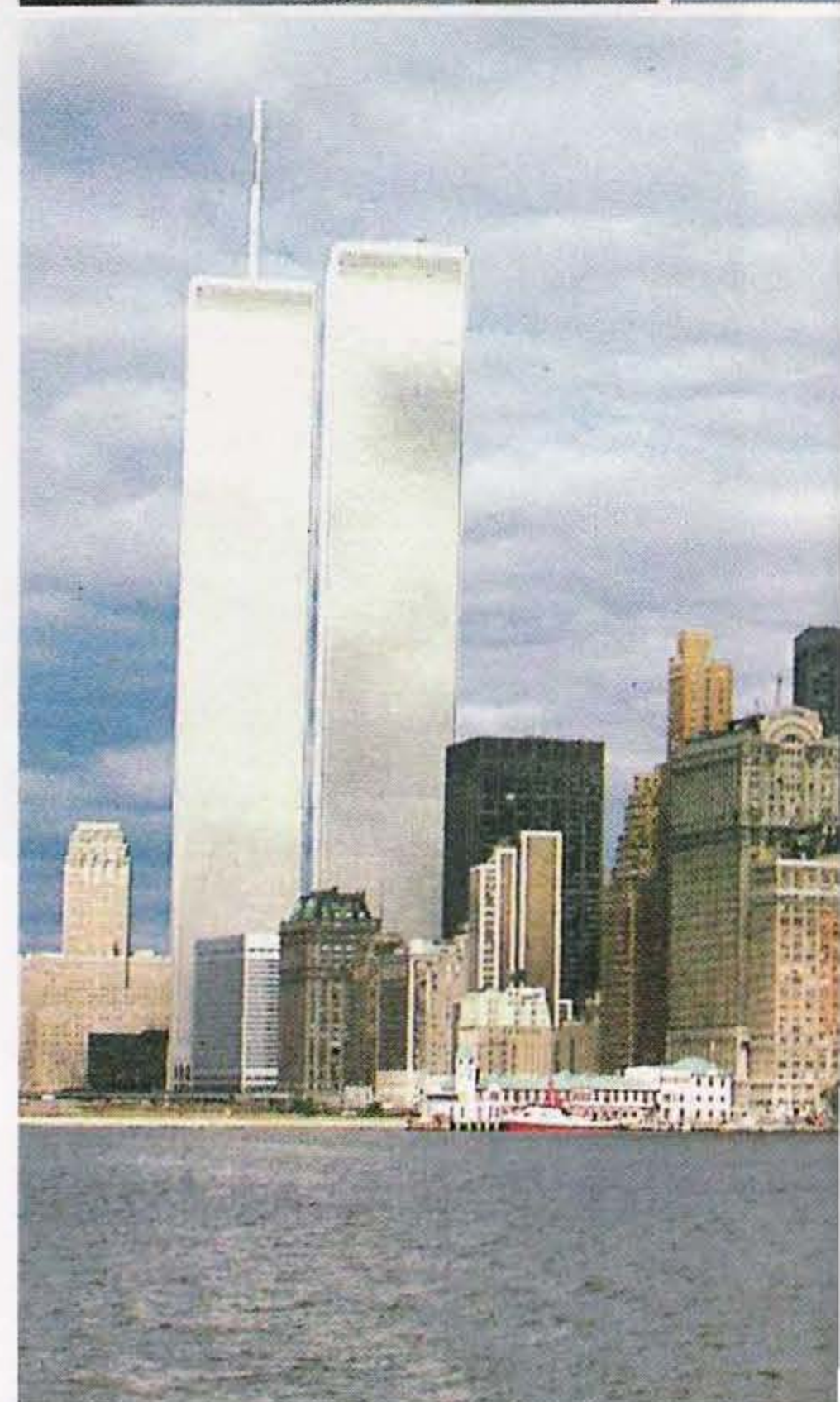
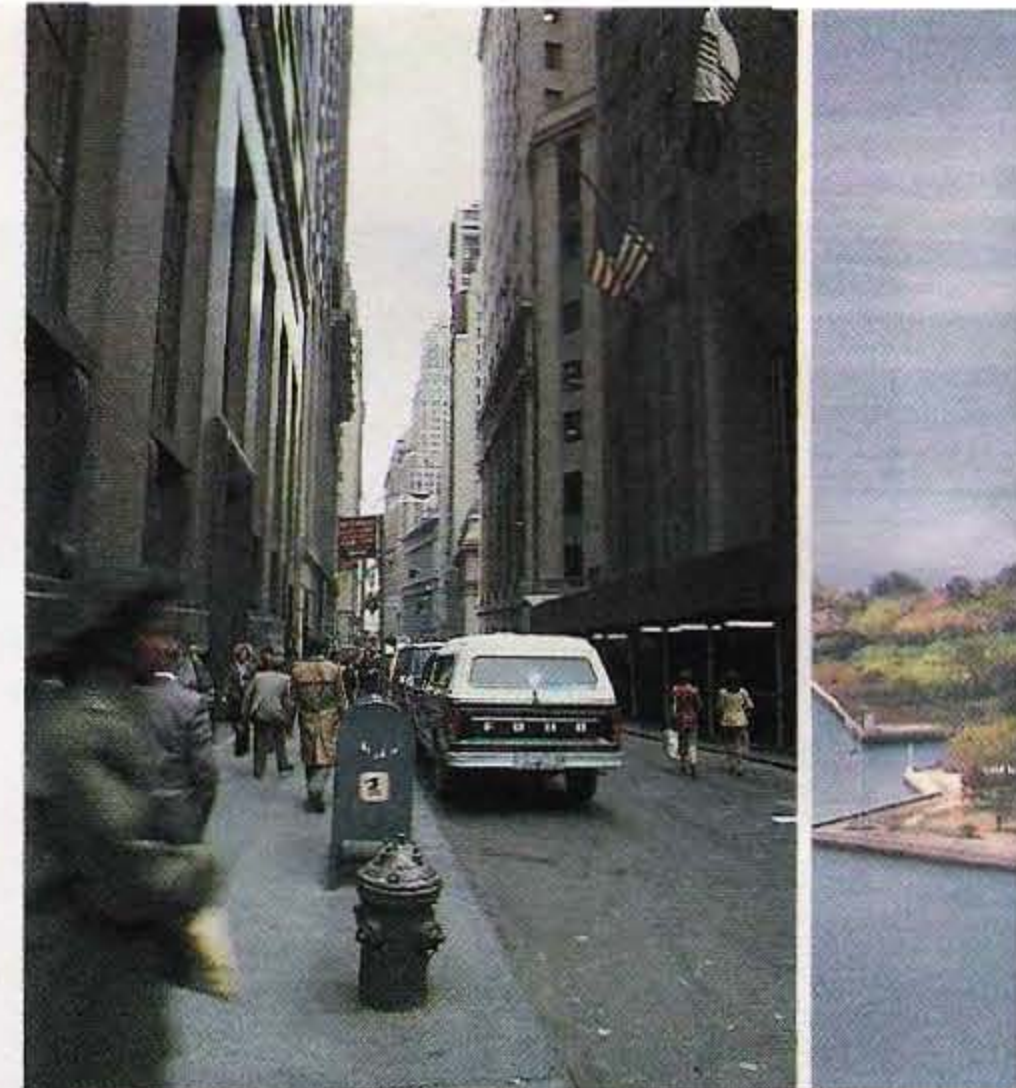
Most youngsters will be found roller-skating or playing basketball, paddleball or handball. These activities are accompanied by music blaring on giant-sized portable radios.

From late May through early September, while just walking up and down the streets, one can truly be entertained and educated about New York. In the parks, jugglers, musicians, roller-skating experts and mimes display their talents.

In Central Park, in Manhattan, young people flock to see their favorite music groups who often do tours in the New York area during the summer. Madison Square Garden, and Yankee and Shea Stadiums, attract many teens because of the sporting and music events that take place in them.

### Public transportation

Since there are so many sights to see in New York City — and because it is so big — the mode of transportation used in this town is definitely important. New York's subway system is incredible. For the average commuter,



riding the subway is a necessary part of life.

New York's railway system is quite extensive. Our MTA (Metropolitan Transit Authority) is the most practical and popular way to travel in Gotham (another nickname for the city), aside from walking.

Driving is not usually the best way to travel from borough to borough. Traffic jams can become nightmares, and most teens in the Apple cannot afford cars.

If we have somewhere to go and our parents can't provide a ride, we most likely will take the train. If you are not within



# You Are Among the First!

Did you ever notice? When your friends, relatives, neighbors or teachers mention any of the world's religious holidays, such as Christmas, Easter, Valentine's Day or Halloween, everyone knows what everyone else is talking about.

But mention the Feast of Tabernacles or any other biblical Holy Days and you get reactions like: "The Feast of *whaaaaat?* Tabernacles? What's that? I never heard of it."

It's true that most people in the world haven't heard of it. To them the expression *Feast of Tabernacles* has an unfamiliar, even strange sound.

It shouldn't sound unfamiliar or strange. But to them it does. And because it seems so different from what the world is accustomed to, maybe you have felt a little defensive about the subject. That is to say, maybe you have hesitated to let anyone know you celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles each year. Maybe you have felt funny or awkward about it.

But there is no need at all to feel awkward about it. Why do we say that? Look at it this way: Most people like to be in tune with all of the latest styles and trends.

They want to be among the first to see a particular movie, or among the first to own a new album, or among the first to dress a certain way, or to fix their hair in a certain manner, or to use newly popular words or expressions. They want to be trend setters.

Did you know that you have the chance to be a trend setter — to get in on the ground floor of something really big? It's true! In not too many years the *whole world* is going to be keeping the Feast of Tabernacles. The Bible leaves no doubt about it (see



Zechariah 14:9, 16-19).

So those who keep the Feast of Tabernacles now are in reality the leaders, pioneers and trend setters. They are ahead of their time.

One young person told of being in a language arts class where everyone was assigned to write a report on "My Favorite Christmas." The young person informed the teacher, however, that she doesn't observe Christmas anymore, but that she could write about her favorite Holy Day season — the Feast of Tabernacles.

In her paper she told about the thrill of being able to travel to any of dozens of exciting locations on earth to keep the Feast, about eating in nice restaurants, about receiving many Feast gifts, about fun, activities, making new friends and so many

other benefits of keeping the Feast.

The paper received an *A-* grade and the teachers who reviewed it were quite impressed. In the margins of the paper they wrote these comments:

"This does sound like fun!"

"It sounds great! Your evidence is very convincing."

"The Feast of Tabernacles does sound like a wonderful holiday."

The point is, if you celebrate God's Holy Days now, there is no need to feel like apologizing to those around you who do not keep them. This is not to say you should go around preaching to others, but, on the other hand, don't be afraid to talk about God's Feasts when the subject comes up.

Be positive about them.

Enjoy them — just as the whole world soon will! — *By Clayton Steep* □

## A Feast Gift for You

If you've been to the Feast before, you know this will be the highlight of your year. If you're going for the first time, I assure you the experience will be unforgettable.

In many special ways the entire Feast is a gift to us from our loving Creator.

During the Feast God will teach us about His incredible



## FESTIVAL 84

plan for humanity, something only understood by those who keep these days.

We will be able to meet with others who believe as we do, including many other teens. Back at school, you probably stood alone in what you believe.

Activities, like dances, skating, hiking and horseback riding, help keep every moment exciting.

The Feast also allows us to travel more than many of us would do if we weren't keeping it. And God provides a way to enjoy all this without having to worry about how to pay all the bills — through the second tithe.

God uses the Church and our parents to give us all of these blessings. But how can we say thank you for these gifts? Here are some ideas.

- Appreciate the time your family will spend together. More than one person has told me that the memories they cherish most were of the time spent with Dad and Mom during the Feast.

- Learn more about your parents by asking how they came to keep the Feast and why it's important to them.

- Remember that we're at the Feast to learn about becoming pioneers and leaders. Listen carefully to the details about the world tomorrow and our part in it as they are explained in sermons.

The Feast of Tabernacles makes us think about the future and about others we can help. Someday everyone will keep the

Feast (Zechariah 14:16). But for now, only a few, including you, can understand this message.

So be thankful to God who has made all this known to your parents who then passed the wonderful gift on to you! — *By Victor Kubik* □

## What's Your Part in the World Tomorrow?

Have you thought of what you will be doing 20 years from now?

The Feast of Tabernacles season is a good time to ask yourself that question.

Each year, members of God's Church assemble for eight days to mark the soon-coming Kingdom of God. With all the violence and hypocrisy in today's world, it's not hard to see that the incredible Kingdom God promised is not yet here.

But it soon will be! And the opportunities that the new age promises to the youths of God's Church are without parallel today.

This age is hopelessly mired in social, economic and spiritual confusion. The world you live in is lurching toward a certain end.

Yet a merciful God has selected a small number of people — symbolically called firstfruits in the Bible — to prepare now to help lead a confused humanity away from today's unhappiness to peace, prosperity and harmony.

God offers you a chance now to train alongside your parents to help teach others God's way of life in the coming Kingdom!

What will you be teaching? You'll be helping others understand God's happy way of

In not too many years the whole world will be keeping the Feast. Now you are among the first to keep it!

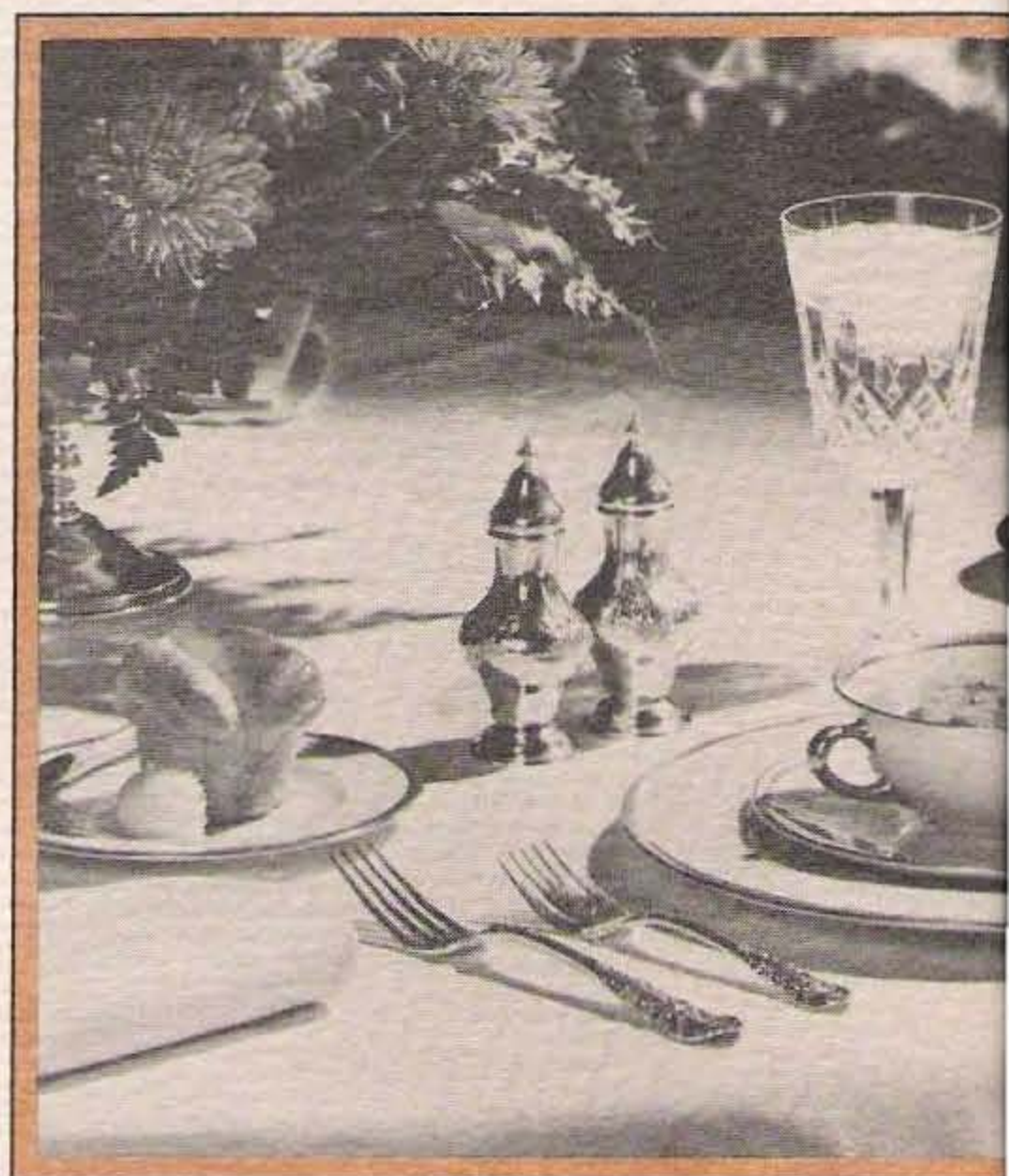
life as expressed generally in the Ten Commandments (Isaiah 2:3). As God says, "the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:9).

To do this, you will need to counsel and comfort people who have suffered through the horrors of the end of this age.

Cities destroyed by nuclear war must be rebuilt. You'll be playing a part in gently helping people return and rebuild their homes (Isaiah 61:4).

You'll also be helping to teach people a pure universal language (Zephaniah 3:9).

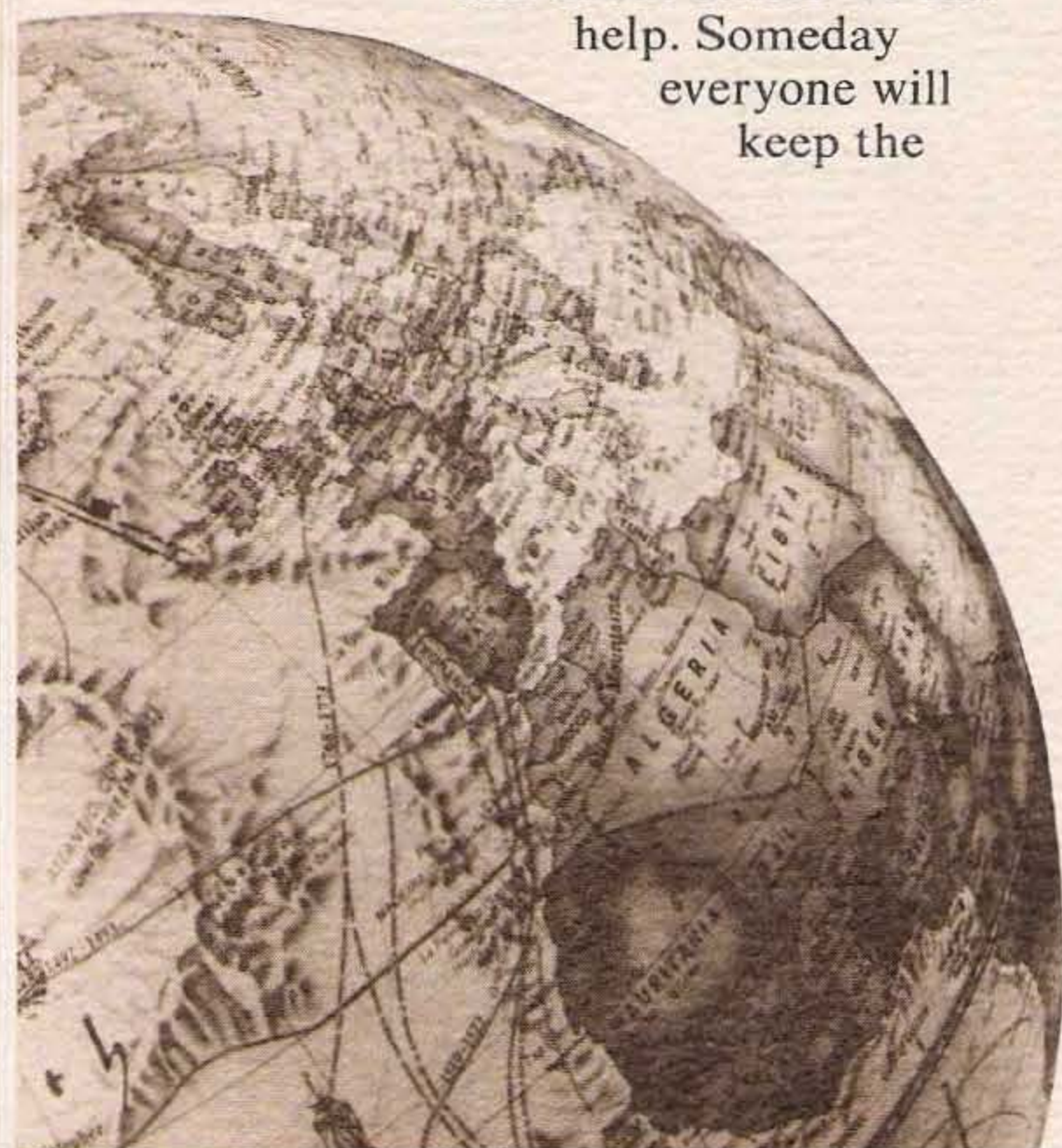
Mountains will be moved to help provide new cropland for  
*(Continued on page 6)*



## Festival Feasting

Have you ever had the chance to eat at a really nice restaurant at the Feast, and then been too embarrassed because you didn't know how to act in the formal surroundings?

Or have you ever wondered why you have to follow what someone decided should be a rule





of etiquette 200 or more years ago?

Most etiquette rules were made to allow those dining with you to enjoy their meals. They are simply courtesy.

Here are several important things to know about dining out:

- A man should open the car door for a woman and help her out. He should open the door to the restaurant for her also, and let her go in first.

- When a waiter, waitress or maitre d' is showing you to your table, the woman should precede the man.

- When you are seated, place your napkin in your lap.

- When a couple is dining together, the man should place the order. (If the man is paying for both meals, the woman can get a clue as to what price range

to order from by asking what he is having.)

However, if you are with a large group, each person should order his or her own meal to avoid confusion.

- If you are dining at a formal restaurant, you may have in front of you what seems to be an incredible array of cutlery for one person. The easiest way to remember when each knife and

fork should be used is, use the utensils farthest away from the plate, and work from the outside in.

- Wait until everyone has been served before starting to eat.

- Don't reach. Ask for items with a "please" and thank the person after you receive them.

- Cut one bite of food at a time, eat it, then cut another.

- Try to make the conversation suitable to the surroundings.

- When the meal is finished, or if you need to leave the table during the meal, fold your napkin

loosely and put it at the left of your plate. If the plate has been taken away, place it directly in the center.

- A tip in many areas of the world should consist of at least 15 percent of the price of the meal. If service was exceptionally good, you should leave more money accordingly. If you are part of a large group, check the menu or the bill to see if gratuity has already been added to your check. If so, a tip is not necessary.

These are some of the basics of dining etiquette. If you want to know more, there are many books on the subject at the library. Why not check them out and practice now so you can enjoy those special meals at the Feast? — *By Karen Fergen* □

special to me. One thing that still sticks in my mind is Pastor General Herbert W.

Armstrong's sermon on the Last Great Day.

It was the first time I had ever heard Mr. Armstrong in person, and his topic was the meaning of God's Festivals. It was one of the most memorable sermons of my life.

I can still remember how elated I felt after hearing that sermon. Mr. Armstrong showed me that God had a plan, and I was part of it!

The 11-hour drive home seemed to fly. I was so excited — that sermon helped to change my life. I discovered then that sermons are for teens too.

Teens also play an important role in God's plan. The same principles that can help adults

grow closer to God and get along with other people will also help teens.

The key to getting the most out of sermons is thinking about how to apply them. With family, YOU and personal activities, there doesn't seem to be much time to think in eight days. But, if you plan for it, you can make the time.

When taking an essay test in school, you know how much easier it is to do well when you understand the material. But, to understand you have to do more than just memorize. You have to think about the information.

The same goes for sermons. Think about how to apply them in your everyday life. Perhaps at

## Memories of My First Feast

My friends at school could not figure out why I always took two weeks off at the start of the school year.

Nor could they understand why I ate crackers instead of leavened bread for a week during the spring.

And after they somehow heard that I fasted on the Day of Atonement, that's when the rumor got out that during those two weeks I was out of school I went on a strange religious pilgrimage!

Probably every teen in God's Church experiences some of these same things.

Have you ever felt really different from your friends? If you have, you were like me. But during my first Feast, I found something that made this not matter so much.

How old were you at your first Feast of Tabernacles? Mine was at Big Sandy, Texas, when I was 14.

That year's Festival is still





the Feast you will hear a sermon about teamwork. In the sermon the minister explains how the Church is a team with Christ as its head. He explains how every person in the Church from the apostle to the lay member has an important part in the work of God.

Think to yourself, How does this apply to me?

How are you active in your congregation? What about your involvement in YOU?

Think of how you can personally help your YOU chapter to work better as a team.

How can you help make your Church service projects better? What can you do when you have

a YOU camp-out or a trip? When you look at it this way, a sermon that you may have thought was only for adults is now tailored for you!

With this information and inspiration gained at the Feast, you will be ready to begin a new year of family, YOU and school activities.

You will be able to call on these Festival sermons throughout the year to help you in all areas of your life.

You can understand the sermons, and they will help guide you like a lantern (Psalm 119:105). Remember, sermons are for teens too! — *By George Hague* □

## Are We There Yet?

Driving to the Feast can be a time of great anticipation. But after a while, when you've been cooped up in the car for hours and you've read the same storybook to your little brother 10 times, the excitement sometimes lessens and boredom can set in.

There are several word games you can play to pass the time and help keep that feeling of excitement strong throughout the ride. One of our favorites is Password, and here's how to play.

1. It's best to have at least four players — two teams consisting of two players each. However, you can alter the rules a bit if you have fewer players.

2. One person thinks of a word (the password) and whispers it to a person from the other team, being sure not to let the other players hear it. Or he

writes it down and shows it only to that person. This second person has the option to play or pass (which doesn't mean he loses his turn — he simply chooses to take his turn second).

3. If he chooses to play, he gives a one-word clue to his teammate who tries to guess what the password is. Should he choose to pass, the player who thought up the word gives his teammate a one-word clue.

4. If the first team fails to guess the password, the other team gets a try. The play continues in this manner, alternating between teams, until someone guesses the password or until each team has had three attempts. If no one has guessed

the word by this time, no points are awarded and you go on to the next round.

5. For the next round, one of the other two players thinks of a word and the game continues, with each person having a turn at choosing the word.

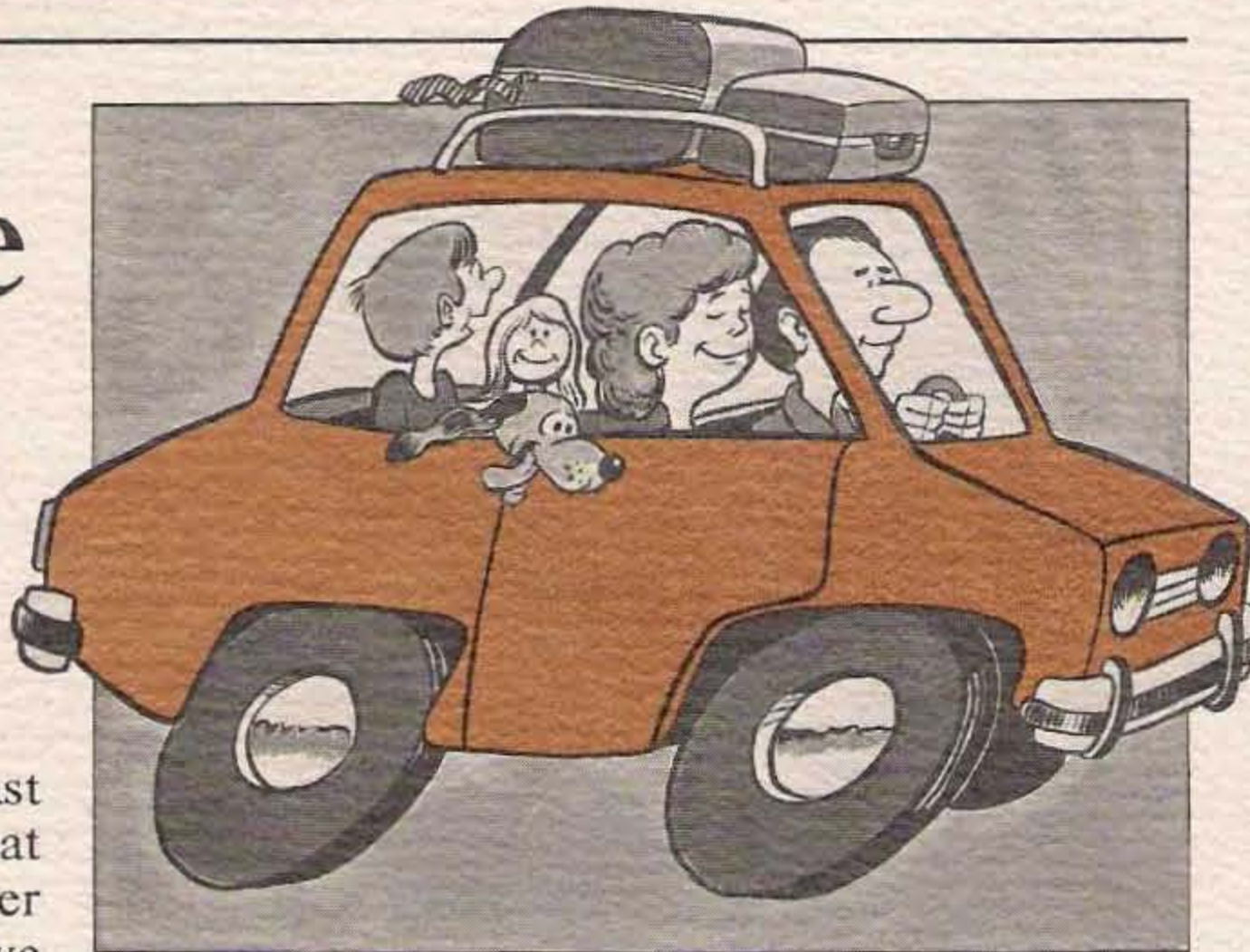
Scoring: 10 points if the word is guessed from the first clue; 9 points if the word is guessed after the second clue; and so on, with the sixth and final clue worth 5 points. You may want to set a limit of 50 or 100 points to win.

You'll learn strategies as you go along. You'll find that sometimes it's better to pass than to play. Maybe you'll use a clue that means the opposite of the password or one that sounds like the password (but don't use part of the password in your clue!).

Don't use gestures, but you can vary your tone of voice as part of the clue. This is handy when trying to let your partner know that the word means the opposite of your clue.

If you have more than four people in the car, one person can act as the emcee, choosing the words, or players can rotate in and out of the game. Even though everyone can't play at one time, those who are sitting out can be thinking of words they would like to use.

Challenge everyone to join in! The game can be tailored for any age group. Everyone will agree Password is a stimulating game, and lots of fun! — *By Cheryl Ebeling* □



## A Feast Party!

What's your idea of a really good time?

If you're like most people, getting together with good friends and good food will rank high on your list of good times. A party! And what better time to arrange a party than the Feast,



when you're likely to have at least a little extra time and money?

Here are some tips to help make your Feast party a success.

- First of all, plan the kind and size of gathering you can handle. Think about the resources you will have at the Feast. If you'll be in a small motel room, asking two or three friends over for snacks and a game of cards might be best. On the other hand, if your parents have rented a house or condominium, you may be able to invite six or more for a board game or charades.

Don't forget about the great outdoors! If your motel has a pool, how about a pool-side party? (Check motel rules first.) Parks can be great cookout spots. If your Feast site is in an area of natural beauty, how about organizing a short hike and picnic?

- Make the food simple, plentiful and delicious. Simplicity will be essential if you have no kitchen facilities. Some ideas: cheese and crackers, fresh fruit and ice cream, cold meats, sandwiches, pizza, takeout Chinese food, fish and chips — or whatever is popular in your area. Consider asking guests to bring something to add to what you're providing.

- Plan. Even though spontaneous get-togethers can be terrific ("Hey, let's get some sandwiches and come to my house!"), they may not always work well at the Feast. The Feast

is so crammed with activities that if you want to be sure your friends will be able to come, you'll probably have to ask them in advance. Find out what activities are already planned, and choose a day or evening that does not conflict.

- Consider others. When we get our minds on having a good time, it's easy to forget we're not the only people in the world.

For instance, you'll want to talk your Feast party ideas over with Mom and Dad before inviting anyone. It's also a good idea to ask them to stay around for the party; your friends' parents will feel better about letting your friends come. (At my best Feast party, Dad was our disc jockey — he stayed and tuned the radio from station to station to find us good dance music all evening long!)

Be considerate, too, in inviting guests. Think about inviting new friends you have met at the Feast. Also, try to provide everyone with a clear map to the party's location; since most will be unfamiliar with the town, they will appreciate this.

Remember this addition to Murphy's Law: Motels where young people stay invariably come equipped with paper-thin walls and people who go to bed early in the next room. For their sake, keep the noise down. And, for your guests' sake, end the party at a reasonable hour. — *By Colleen Gus Dixon* □



## Eight Great Gift-Giving Ideas

Giving a gift is a good way to show friendship and appreciation. And Feast time is one of the best times to do it!

Here are a few gift ideas to get you started:

- Give your best friend at a different site a phone call to ask how his or her Feast is going. Find out in advance how many minutes you can afford to talk and then clock it!

- Slip a thank-you note in Dad or Mom's Bible to say thanks for all their planning and such a great time.

- Gather some flowers for that special lady (friend, sister, mother, grandmother, a widow you meet at services).

- Buy your little brother or sister a stuffed animal.

- Choose a colorful stationery set for someone you know who enjoys writing letters.

- Buy Mom some perfume to let her know she's special.

- Get your friends souvenirs to help them remember their Feast '84 — maybe a cup, T-shirt, pennant or scrapbook.

- Splurge! Bring in a delicacy you know your family will enjoy sharing, like an exotic fruit, cheese or some fudge.

Enjoy your gift giving this year! — *By Eileen Wendling* □





(Continued from page 2)  
farming and colonization. Perhaps you will be in charge of a phase of this (Isaiah 41:15-16).

Ever wonder what will happen to all of the war planes, leftover nuclear weapons, aircraft carriers and tanks? They'll all be melted down and made into useful products! (Micah 4:3).

In short, there will be plenty of exciting and important things for you to do in the coming

Kingdom. If you'd like to know more about what your future career can hold, why not read the book that Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong wrote especially about God's Kingdom: *The Wonderful World Tomorrow — What It Will Be Like*. Write to the nearest *Youth 84* office listed on the inside of the front cover for a free copy. You won't be sorry! — *By Michael Snyder* □

Spread your study time into several shorter sessions rather than one or two long ones. Your mind will remain sharper and your work will be of higher quality. If you diligently apply yourself, you may even find yourself ahead of your classmates when you return to school!

With your schoolwork underway and under control, you'll feel much freer to enjoy the Feast to the full, with no fears or anxieties about what will happen to your school grades when you return. You'll be able to confidently face your first day back at school, with a lot of stories to tell your friends and completed assignments to give your teachers. You can do it! — *By Wendy Styer* □

## Free Your Feast From Schoolwork Fear

The Feast has a way of flying by. Every day is filled with activity and excitement. Surely your schoolwork can wait one more day!

Have you ever found yourself on your way home, with a week's worth of homework staring you in the face? How am I ever going to get this done! you think miserably, dreading the next day of school. If only I had started earlier!

Sound familiar? It can happen quite easily to any of us. But we don't have to let it! You can have a great Feast *and* get that schoolwork done. Here are some helpful tips.

- Start right away. The sooner you begin, the sooner you will finish. Make good use of the time available — especially time before the Feast actually begins.

- Set goals for yourself. For example, set a deadline for finishing a mathematics assignment and then do your best to meet it. Or, if an evening activity is planned, and you have an hour or two beforehand, challenge

yourself to finish an assignment before it's time to leave. If you share your goals with your family, they can help by encouraging you when your willpower weakens.

- Set aside certain blocks of time specifically for study. This doesn't mean you'll have to give up Feast activities in order to study. There is time for both if you plan wisely. Together with your family, decide on some good times to do some studying. Then plan these times into your schedule. Do your best to follow your schedule, but allow for some flexibility.

- Start with the hardest subject first. This way, the more work you do, the easier it will become, and you're likely to make better progress.

- Ask other family members to quiz you over material you're learning. This helps to ingrain the material into your mind, and your family can also learn in the process!

- Always do your best. It's far more beneficial to do a good job and to learn from your work, than to rush through it just for the purpose of getting it done.



## How You Can Be Involved in Youth Day

Every year during the Feast — especially on Youth Day — you've probably seen teens directing traffic, handing out hymnals, ushering.

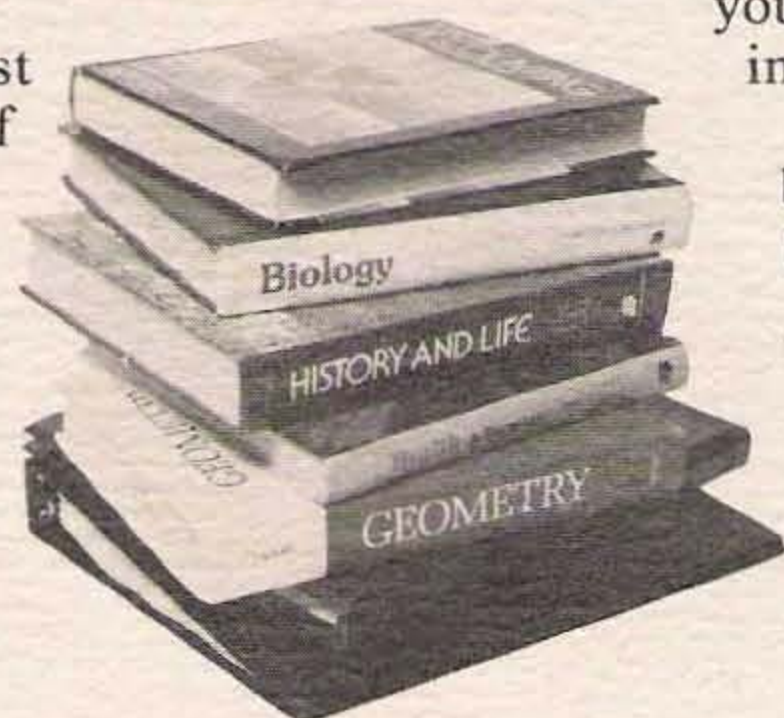


Illustration by Bruce Hedges



Have you ever wanted to help out at the Feast in some way? How did those other fellows and girls get those jobs?

They may have gone about it in several different ways. Announcements are usually made in local church services well before Feast time, asking for volunteer help at that church's assigned Feast site. Did you think that announcement was only meant for your parents? Don't be too sure.

Why not approach your local Festival adviser or pastor and find out? Ask him how you can serve at this year's Feast. Also you can ask your pastor about serving at Youth Day at the same time.

But, wait a minute, you may say, my family is transferring to another Feast site. Whom do I ask about serving at that site? Sometimes announcements are made in services if extra volunteer help is needed.

Find out who the Youth Director is at your site. Get acquainted with him early in the Feast and let him know you'd like to serve.

What if your services aren't needed this year at your site? Don't be discouraged. Look around you. Is there an overburdened mother with several small children who could use your help finding seats? Maybe some friends of your family could use a baby-sitter some evening during the Feast.

Look for ways you can help others — before, during and after services. Sometimes you don't have to look much further than your own family.

And speaking of your family, be sure your parents are aware of your plans to serve and that you have their permission. Festival time is family time. You don't want to get so busy that you exclude yourself from family activities.

Plan to include service to others in your Feast this year, and see if you don't find yourself saying afterward, "This was the best Feast ever!" — *By Sheila Graham* □

## Dear Youth 84,

**Q. I am a 17-year-old girl who attends the Worldwide Church of God with my parents, and have since I was 12. I am wondering the best way to answer people who ask what my religion is. I usually tell them I am a Christian, but that rarely satisfies them.**

**A.** This is a good question, and you will be better able to answer people when you realize why they are confused.

We humans just naturally like to understand things and people by slotting them into known categories in our minds. When it comes to religion, this means people want to put us into one of the large religions, such as Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism or one of the two great divisions of professing Christianity — Catholicism and Protestantism.

Therefore even when you say that we are Christians, this does not narrow the field enough for many people. They are confused because they think that if you are not Catholic and are a Christian, you must be from one of the Protestant denominations. Then they want to know, "What denomination are you?"

We are, of course, not of any denomination since to be of a Protestant denomination your church must have come from the Catholic church in the Protestant Reformation of the 16th century. God's Church was never of the Catholic church nor descended from it through the Protestants.

You can clear up some of the confusion if your questioner asks for more information by saying something like: "I attend the Worldwide Church of God. It is not one of the large denominations with which you are familiar, but

it is a Christian church with its beliefs based on the whole Bible."

You really do not have an obligation to delve further into your personal affairs than this unless the person wants to know more of what you believe and is *sincere* (not merely nosy). In that case you can answer his questions if you can and point him to booklets or your minister for more information.

**Q. We are always told that we should "hang around" and be good friends with Church kids and be closer to them than our friends in the world. Yet the conduct and language of my school friends is of a higher standard than most of the kids in YOU in our area. This doesn't seem right to me.**

**A.** It's not right, but it happens, and the reasons it does are plain. Church kids, after all, are merely kids out of this world whose parents have begun to attend the Church. They don't automatically become angels when they walk through the church doors any more than you or I do. Most times they do make positive changes, but it takes time.

If some teens in the Church are troublemakers and are not living up to God's standards, you don't have to be friends with them. And if they are having a bad influence on other teens, you may need to consider talking to the minister about it privately and respectfully.

Some teens hastily conclude that all Church teens are unruly or sour, and then make the illogical decision that they will





therefore totally reject everything about the Church and just spend all their time with their old circle of outside friends.

Even if not all teens in the Church are proper examples, nonetheless this is the true Church of God and there are many teens trying to live up to God's standards. The Church has the biblical truth of God that can give you a happy life if you don't tune out because of some bad examples.

**Q. I am a 24-year-old member who did not grow up attending God's true Church. I married (before baptism) a guy I went steady with in high school. He was the football, baseball and track star — the very top of his class. After school he landed a good job, and we even built our own home together [before we married] at age 19.**

**Then I began attending Sabbath services and was going to be baptized, but learned that members should not marry non-members. So I waited to be baptized because I rebelliously wanted my own way (not trusting God to choose my mate).**

**So we were married at age 21, and then he began getting drunk with his friends, smoking pot and eventually lost his job. We are now on welfare and most of the meager money goes for his marijuana or to the local pool hall. He hasn't even looked for work in the past two years.**

**As I was polishing his large collection of trophies, I had to write to let young people know that one who looks like a guaranteed success "in the world" does not mean a success in life. The only true success is in living God's way, which really does lead to true happiness.**

**A. Thanks for sharing a bit of your personal life with our readers. We couldn't have said it better, and won't try.**

**Q. I am 13, and my parents and I are the only ones in our**

**family who don't celebrate Christmas. The rest of my family always bring me gifts and things around the holidays, and even though I don't feel right taking them, I don't want to hurt feelings by not accepting them. What should I do?**

**A. In a case like yours, where your parents are in God's Church, it's generally best if they tell relatives not to give you Christmas gifts. If your parents have not yet done this, you can respectfully explain your problem to them and ask for their help.**

This situation is usually only a problem for the first few years after a family stops celebrating Christmas, however. If, during the first year or so that you don't celebrate the day, your relatives give you a gift innocently (that is, not knowing about your objections), then you may take it. But they should be politely informed about your beliefs before the next Christmas season so as to avoid the situation occurring again.

While it is your parents' job to inform the relatives and other adults, it may be your job to tell friends who need to know that you don't celebrate Christmas and don't accept gifts.

Special cases do exist that require more space than is available here to explain. These should be taken up with your minister.

**Q. I have been going to the Feast of Tabernacles with my parents for the last few years now and enjoy it very much. But when I return to school after the Feast, I find that I am embarrassed to explain where I have been. How can I tell my friends about the Feast when they ask why I missed school?**

**A. The best way to reply to such a question from your friends or teachers is to answer truthfully, but briefly, and confidently. Answering truthfully means that you should say**

something like, "I've been to a required religious convention of my church." Making your trip sound like only an optional vacation is not really accurate and may cause you problems when you ask for time off from school next year.

By saying you should be brief, we mean that you must be accurate, but you are not required, and it would not be wise, to give a long explanation of Church beliefs or even the meaning behind the Feast. Your friends and teachers probably do not want all that information. If they want to know more, you may answer if you can and wish, or else point them to your parents or minister.

Finally, the attitude in which you answer their question can make a big difference.

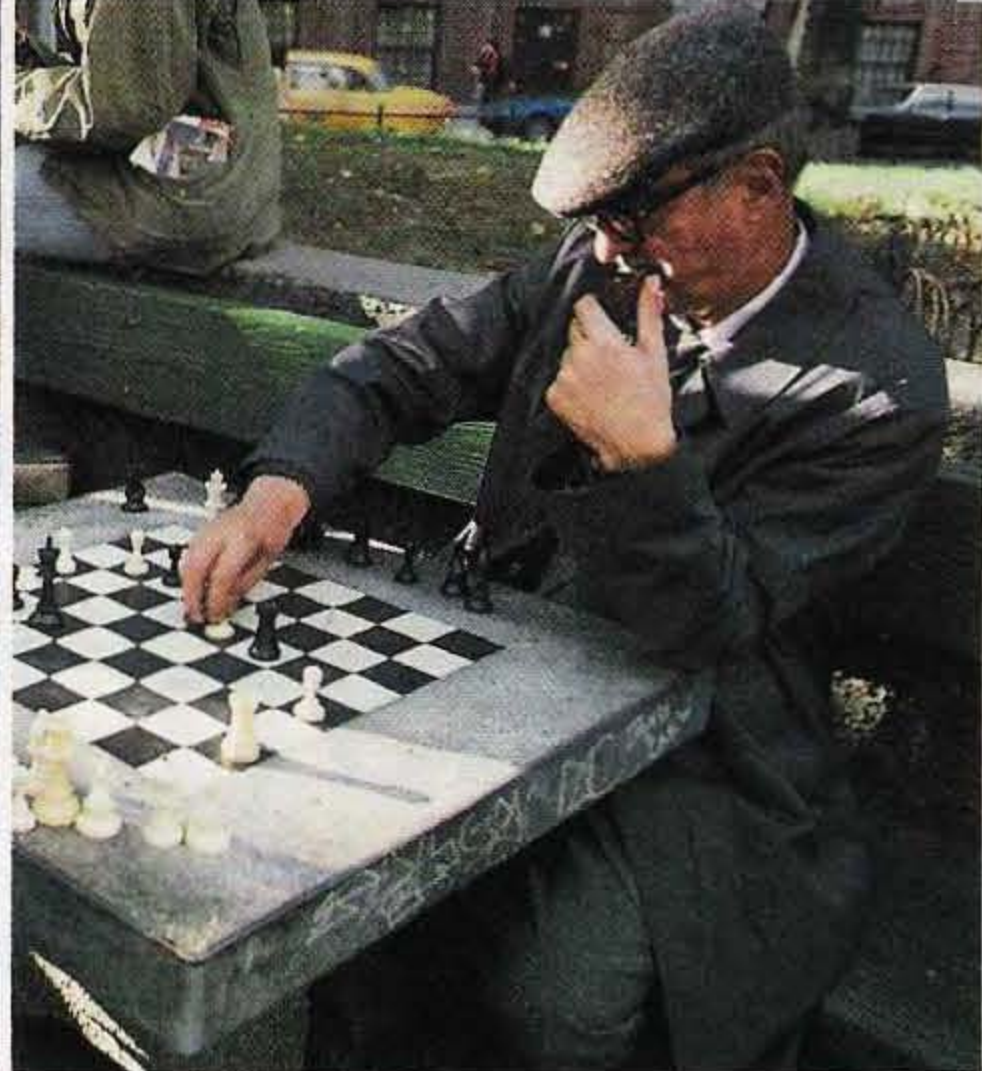
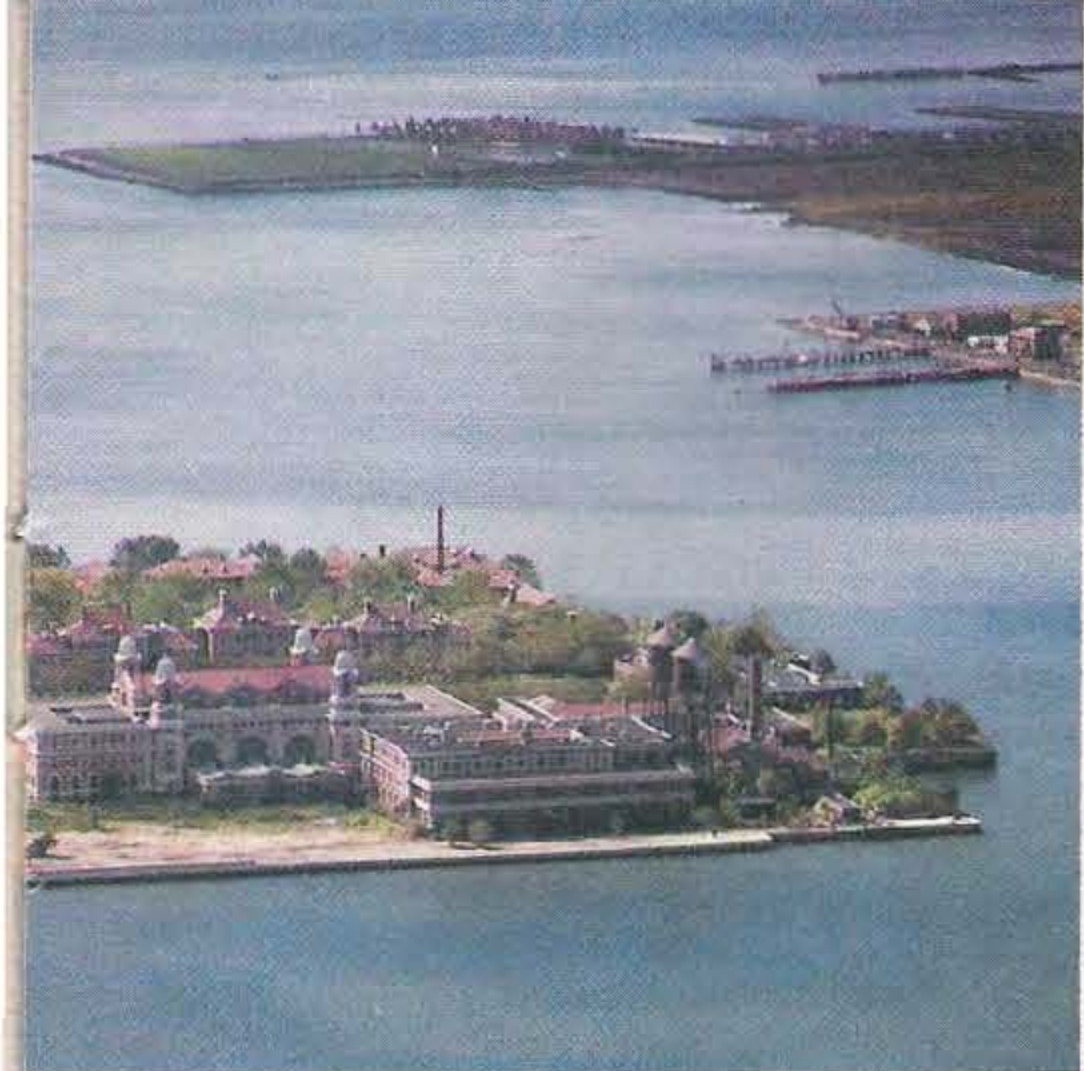
If you are confident, knowing that you are entitled to your religious beliefs, and knowing that your beliefs are correct and founded on the Bible, your confidence will shine through your answer and perhaps instill respect in your friends rather than skepticism.

**Q. I am a 15-year-old with a small income from a part-time job. My father is in his third tithe year. Does this mean that I am also in my third tithe year?**

**A. Yes, it probably does. In a household where at least one parent is in God's Church, the tithing cycle of the whole household would follow that of the Church member parent (that of the father if both parents are in the Church). It may not be wrong for individuals in the household to chart their own cycle based on baptism date, or date of first beginning to tithe, but usually this is confusing and it is better handled as stated.**

If you have a specific problem that needs to be addressed, then see your minister. He will be happy to talk to you and answer your questions. □





“There are so many things to do and there is always something happening. This city runs on excitement and is full of life!”



walking distance of your school, which is the case for most young people in New York, you can ride the train nearest your home, or take a city bus.

New York’s transportation system is neither the safest nor cleanest in the world. There is a lot of graffiti on the train cars and in the subway stations.

Riding the train is usually not too dangerous. The chances of getting robbed are greatest for those who ride the subways alone late at night. When my friends and I travel at night, we go in a group and frequent highly populated areas.

The Big Apple, when you cut

down to the core, is made up of many different neighborhoods. Each has particular accents, flavors, sights, sounds and smells.

#### Unique neighborhoods

Each nationality has transplanted its own roots into New York City. That’s why we have Little Italy, Chinatown, Spanish Harlem and Crown Heights (a primarily black and Hassidic Jewish neighborhood).

In the Upper East Side of Manhattan, you can find beautiful brownstone buildings giving the area a touch of old-world charm.

In Lower Manhattan’s Green-

wich Village a wonderful taste of the Big Apple can be sampled in the neighborhood’s many international restaurants and sidewalk cafes.

While driving down the avenues of Manhattan Beach or Midwood, one is taken aback by the beautiful homes and the gracious tree-lined streets. These two neighborhoods quickly wash away the unattractive myths told about Brooklyn. I have lived in New York City all my life and there are still neighborhoods I have not yet discovered.

Although teens in New York have different cultures and languages, what we do have in common is fundamental. We are all struggling and hoping to make a name for ourselves. Being a teen in New York City is not an easy thing, but then, it is not easy anywhere.

If you ever visit the Big Apple, you might at first be stunned or even repulsed by what you see, but don’t allow that to stop you. New York City has a lot to offer. □



# Sports— More Than Fun and Games

By James M. Petty

*How many athletes, fans, coaches, parents or school administrators really understand the major purpose of sports?*

**D**id you know that more nations enter the World Cup soccer competition than belong to the United Nations?

That a staggering one third of all humanity watch the Olympics and World Cup soccer finals — mostly on television?

Young people by the millions, worldwide, participate in various organized programs for different sports. Sports are big.

With all the watching and playing, though, how many ever ask the question, "What is the major purpose of sports?"

Ask that question and you'll receive different responses. Who hasn't heard these answers — usually given as *the* purpose of sports: fun and enjoyment, entertainment, exercise and physical fitness, challenge and the thrill of winning, the camaraderie from belonging and contributing to a team.

These are all valid reasons, but there is one even more important purpose. Because this purpose has been forgotten in too many cases, we see a rising current of bitter opposition to sports as they are played today.

## **Battered young athletes**

Today's undue emphasis on win-or-else competition under-

standably draws fire from many people. Dr. Richard M. Ball is on the faculty at Rutgers University College of Medicine and Dentistry in New Jersey. He sums up the problem: "A fierce competitive spirit among grade school and high school athletes may be getting out of hand."

The pressure of being overly competitive affects, among others, "peewee" swimmers on community and school teams, high school football players and Little League baseball players.

In an editorial accompanying Dr. Ball's report, *Medical World News* told its doctor readers: "Doctors should not stand by silently in the face of the relentless pressure parents and coaches place on young athletes. Driving youngsters to become sports superstars can result in psychological damage and serious physical injury. Overdoing any sport can produce painful musculoskeletal problems that will plague youngsters for the rest of their lives."

Dr. Thomas Tutko, professor of psychology at California State University, San Jose, warns that the philosophy of professional sports (win or you're nothing) has filtered down to all sports.

He says: "Kids' athletic programs are doing a tragic disservice to America when they emulate the win-or-else creed of

big league sports . . . The emphasis should be on doing one's best . . .

"The champion is glorified. He can do no wrong. The losers can't be tolerated. But this isn't the way life is. This is a grotesque distortion and it adversely affects youngsters who are continually exposed to such a philosophy. If they try their best in a sports event and lose they feel they're no good. They're made to feel rejected. They are, in fact, rejected by a lot of coaches and parents who sometimes try to hide their disappointment, but you don't fool too many kids."

These are not the only criticisms of sports. There remain other concerns: the growing violence among both players and spectators, the widespread obsession with sports, the scandals of recruiting and the resulting distortion in the minds of athletes who no longer see themselves in true perspective.

We can safely say that sports can be very beautiful or very ugly and anything in between.

## **Teaching true values in sports**

For sports to be beautiful, everyone involved must recognize *the* major purpose of sports. That major purpose is *to teach and instill true values and proper attitudes* in those who play. It is a



vital part of the educational process. If we lose sight of that fact, we open ourselves up for much trouble.

**Courage:** Sports provide a ready-made environment for learning about real-life experiences. The first major value of sports that should be stressed is courage. Courage is a quality of mind that enables one to meet difficulties with firmness and resolution.

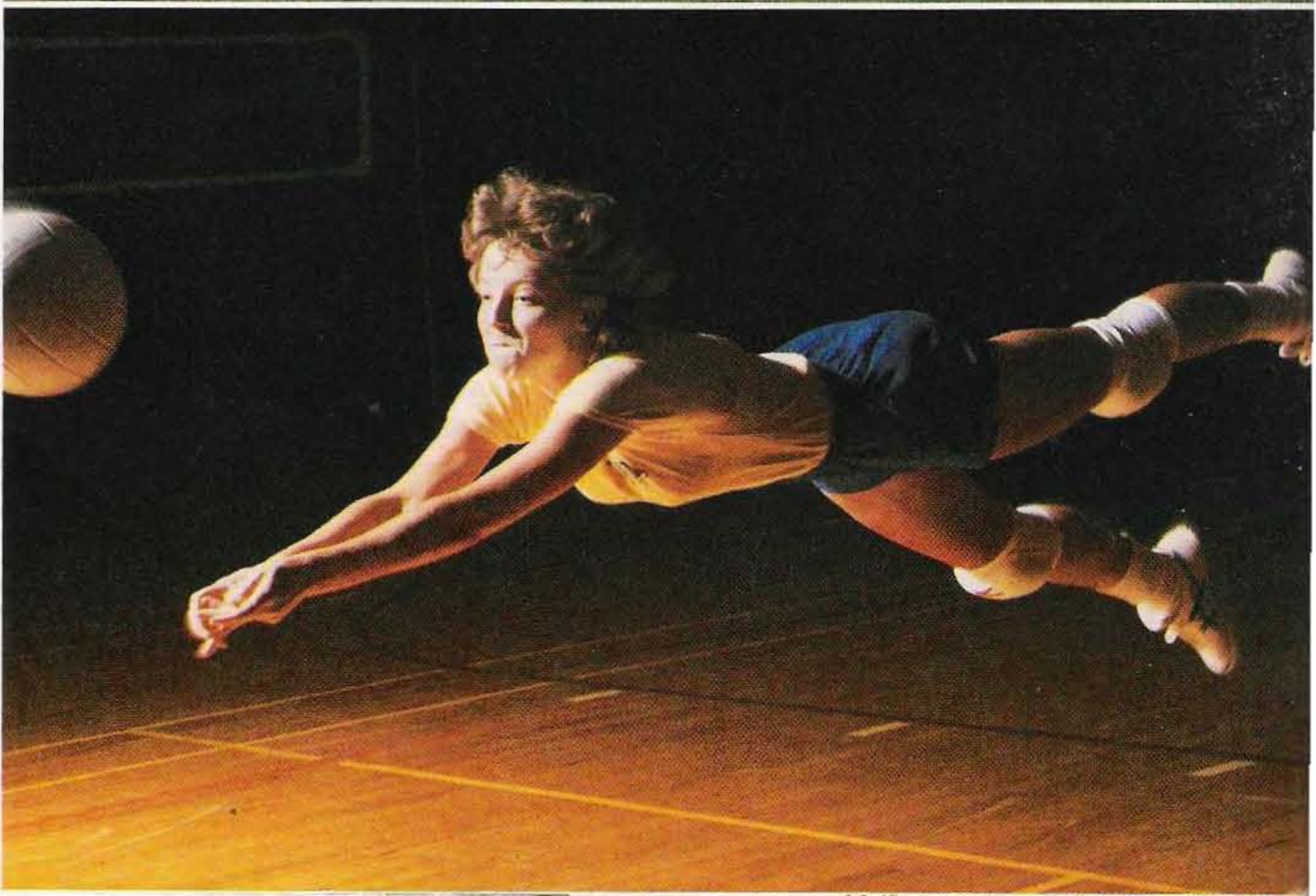
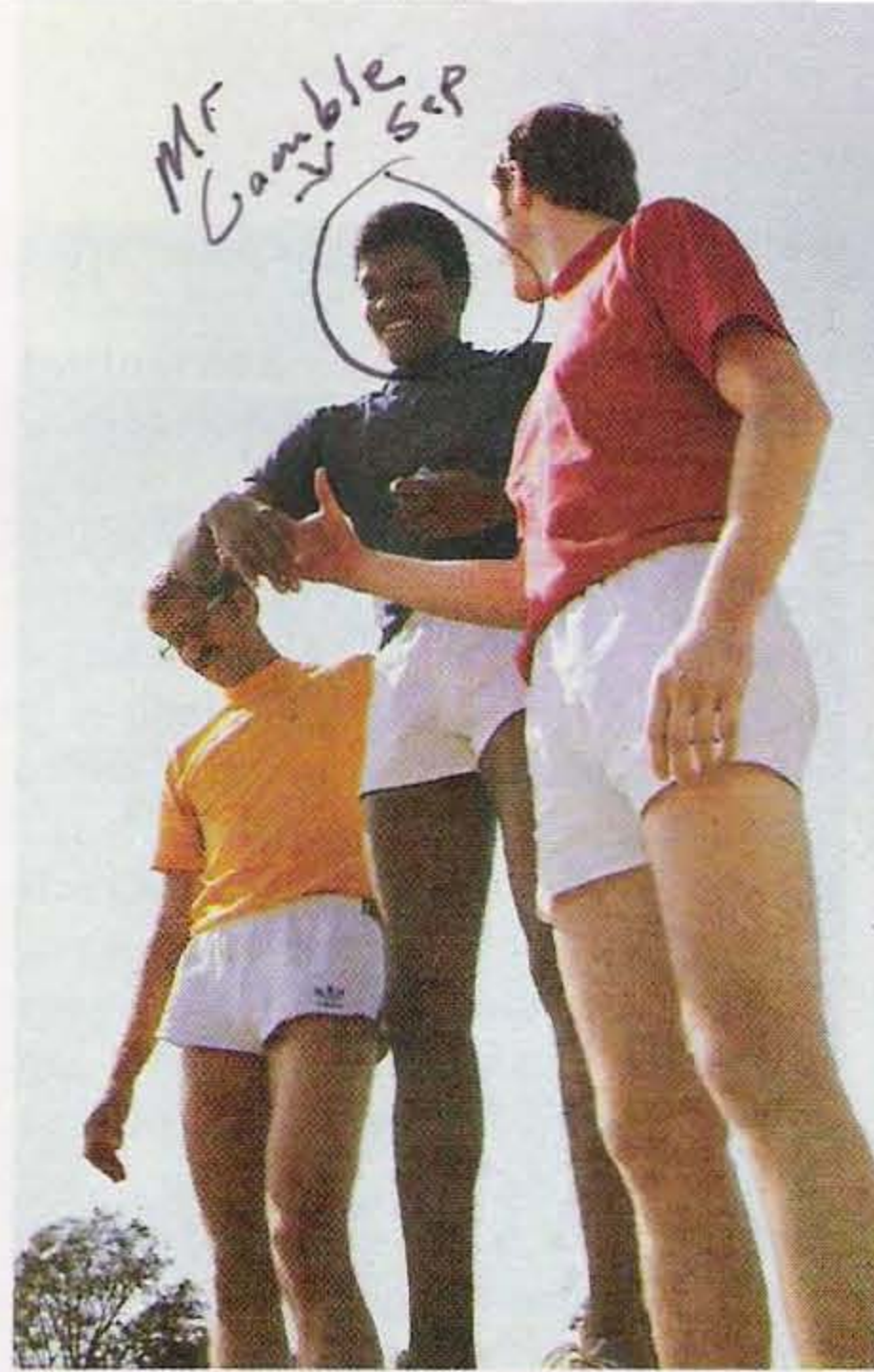
A couple of years ago, the city of Indianapolis, Indiana, was host to the U.S. National Sports Festival. Another of the touching and memorable moments that happen quite often in sports occurred. Randy Harvey, staff writer for the Los Angeles, California, *Times*, tells the story:

"As the National Sports Festival's platform diving champion, Greg Louganis [this year's Olympic gold medalist] did not have to share his moment with anyone. But during the awards ceremony Sunday, he put his arm around runner-up Bruce Kimball's waist and lifted him from the second level to the top of the victory level. While a standing-room-only crowd of more than 5,000, the largest ever to see a diving event in the United States, gave them a standing ovation, they stood side by side, their hands linked and raised triumphantly over their heads and cried."

Why did Greg Louganis do this? Because he knew that a little more than nine months before doctors were not sure that Bruce Kimball would live, much less compete again.

On Oct. 18, 1981, a woman driving a van crossed the dividing line on an Ann Arbor, Michigan, highway and slammed head-on into Kimball's automobile. Kimball was rushed to the emergency room, where he underwent 24 hours of surgery.

To continue Randy Harvey's account: "Every bone in his face was broken. His skull was fractured. His leg was broken. Ligaments in his knee were torn. His liver was lacerated. His spleen had to be removed. He went into the hospital with 140 pounds on





## Belonging to and contributing to a team effort help in building a healthy attitude toward life in general.

his 5-9 frame and came out weighing 105. His leg was in a cast for 12 weeks. His jaw was wired shut for 10. He ate his food through a straw."

Greg Louganis wanted everyone present that day in Indianapolis to know that he considered Bruce Kimball a champion too. To dare, to risk, to accept the challenge, to display the courage of a Bruce Kimball is one of the great benefits to be derived from sports.

**Endurance:** Sports, with its real-life environment, provides for the development of endurance, of perseverance, of never giving up. It's easy to give up, especially when behind or when the odds are great against you. We all admire and respect the person who tenaciously hangs in there despite the odds till the race is over or the game has ended. The individual trained to play the game this way is likely to approach life in the same way. Endurance is, in fact, one of the seven laws for success in any field of endeavor.

The Creator God values endurance — so much so that He once came to this earth, appeared in the form of a man and wrestled with Jacob. Because of Jacob's endurance and tenacity in this wrestling match, the Creator God blessed him and changed his name to Israel —

meaning one who prevails with God.

You can read the account of this inspiring experience in Genesis 32:24-28.

Jacob endured in the grueling sport of wrestling from sometime during the night till the break of day. By comparison, modern day wrestling matches consist of three rounds of three minutes each for nine minutes of exhausting wrestling. On this special occasion, where the blessing of God was involved, Jacob didn't give up even though his leg was out of joint.

God was impressed with Jacob's perseverance — in contrast to Jacob's previous skill at taking advantage of another. God, in fact, expects all humanity sooner or later to endure and prevail, especially in the area where it really counts, in the battle to conquer sin. Sin is the breaking of God's commandments (I John 3:4). "To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne," says God in Revelation 3:21.

God expects us to put down any thoughts of sin, to persevere and not give in to those thoughts, but to prevail as Jacob did. Or if already caught up in a sinful habit, not to continually give in to it but to conquer it through God's help.

**Patience:** Another true value to be learned in sports is patience. Sports will always have its obstacles, failures, delays, trials and pains. Players must learn to meet these difficulties with calmness, composure

and without complaint.

We should recognize that we won't blossom into quality players overnight. It takes time, effort and practice to hone one's skills. An error or a lack of initial skill should be no cause for discouragement. By diligent practice,

skill levels will improve.

How patient are players toward their teammates? Players running down and making fun of other players for shortcomings build a wrong approach in relationships. Usually the more skillful pick on the younger or less skillful. Players need to realize patience helps to develop confidence, but lack of it hinders development.

How about patience toward officials, referees and umpires? Berating officials in sports is common in most societies. But booing, shouting or cursing at the official represents disrespect for authority. We can attempt to excuse ourselves with "It's harmless," but it still teaches disrespect for authority.

**Teamwork:** Team sports provide an ideal environment for learning the true value of teamwork, learning to get along with others. The individual must interact with other players, sacrificing personal glory for the welfare of the team.

Players should be taught that selfishness, egotism, envy and criticism of each other quickly evaporate team spirit and harm the effectiveness of a team just as they do in everyday life.

These are a few of the many true values too often left untaught. There are many others such as playing by the rules, winning and losing graciously and playing to the best of your ability.

### Negative experiences

Many people have had negative experiences in sports because a sometimes ruthless selection process has been allowed to occur at all levels of sports. Excluding anyone, and most especially children, from the chance to gain the benefits of sports is devastating to those excluded. Since vital lessons in how to live can be absorbed through sports, no one should be kept from these opportunities. Belonging to and contributing to a team effort help in building a healthy attitude toward life in general.

Sports can be beautiful or ugly  
(Continued on page 29)







Reflectors, statues and decorative signs all add up to make the jeepney a uniquely Filipino way to travel. (Photos by Kevin Blackburn)



# Journeying by Jeepney

By Thomas C. Hanson

*It's a colorful, uniquely Filipino way to travel.*

**B**efore going to the Philippines last fall I read that something called a jeepney is a common form of transportation there.

Little did I realize that I'd soon see dozens of them, all decorated in different ways.

What are jeepneys? They are brightly ornamented jeeps used for passenger service in Metro Manila and throughout the Philippines.

Most jeepneys seat 16 passengers comfortably — 14 in the back and two up front with the

driver. In the provinces, sometimes 30 to 40 ride one — or as many as can hang on, not so comfortably.

The idea to turn jeeps into transportation vehicles came when the U.S. Army left hundreds of jeeps in the Philippines after World War II. The enterprising Filipinos turned them into a form of transportation.

Now they are manufactured at five plants in the Philippines, including plants run by Toyota and Ford.

Some are custom-made and elaborate — with stereos, chrome

figurines, carpets and jalousies (adjustable slatted windows).

It costs only a peso in Metro Manila for the first 4 kilometers. That's about six cents for 2½ miles. All walks of life except the very rich use jeepneys for transportation.

The life of a jeepney driver is tough. Edgar Alcantara, a 34-year-old jeepney driver in Metro Manila, like most drivers, drives only three or four days a week, beginning at 4 a.m. and quitting about 9 or 10 p.m. It's simply too exhausting to drive every day.

Gas is expensive, fares are low and the driver must pay the jeepney owner for the use of his vehicle.

Some refer to jeepneys as relics of the past, and there are plans to phase them out. The trend is toward larger buses or LRTs (light railway transits). The plans are to reroute the jeepneys to secondary routes.

That might be easier said than done. There are two or three million jeepney drivers in the Philippines and a lot of passengers who would miss this inexpensive and colorful way to travel. □



# IDEAS PLUS

## How to Keep a Car Happy

Changing the oil in an automobile can help it perform better and last longer. Learning how to do it yourself can help you save money.

With a few common tools and some basic instructions, you can perform this simple, but vital car-care procedure.

Motor oil does more than keep engine parts slippery so they move quickly and easily. Oil also helps keep them from collecting harmful contaminants. The acids, resins and dirt that build up in an engine can create friction, corrosion and rust. Oil creates a protective barrier.

But when too much dirt builds up in the oil, it is unable to do its job properly and must

be replaced. A car running with dirty oil is gradually self-destructing. Changing dirty oil is vital if a car is to have a long life. If the car needs an oil change, ask your dad (or an experienced friend) to help the first time. He can offer suggestions to make it go quicker.

So how do you do it? First, you will need some tools: a heavy-duty wrench to unscrew the oil plug, a container to collect the old oil and an oil spout or funnel. Of course, you will also want to have fresh oil and a new oil filter handy. Most cars use four to five quarts of oil. Check the owner's manual for your particular car.

Begin by placing a large container beneath the engine under the drain plug. If you're not sure where the drain plug is, ask someone who knows before you unscrew anything. Loosen

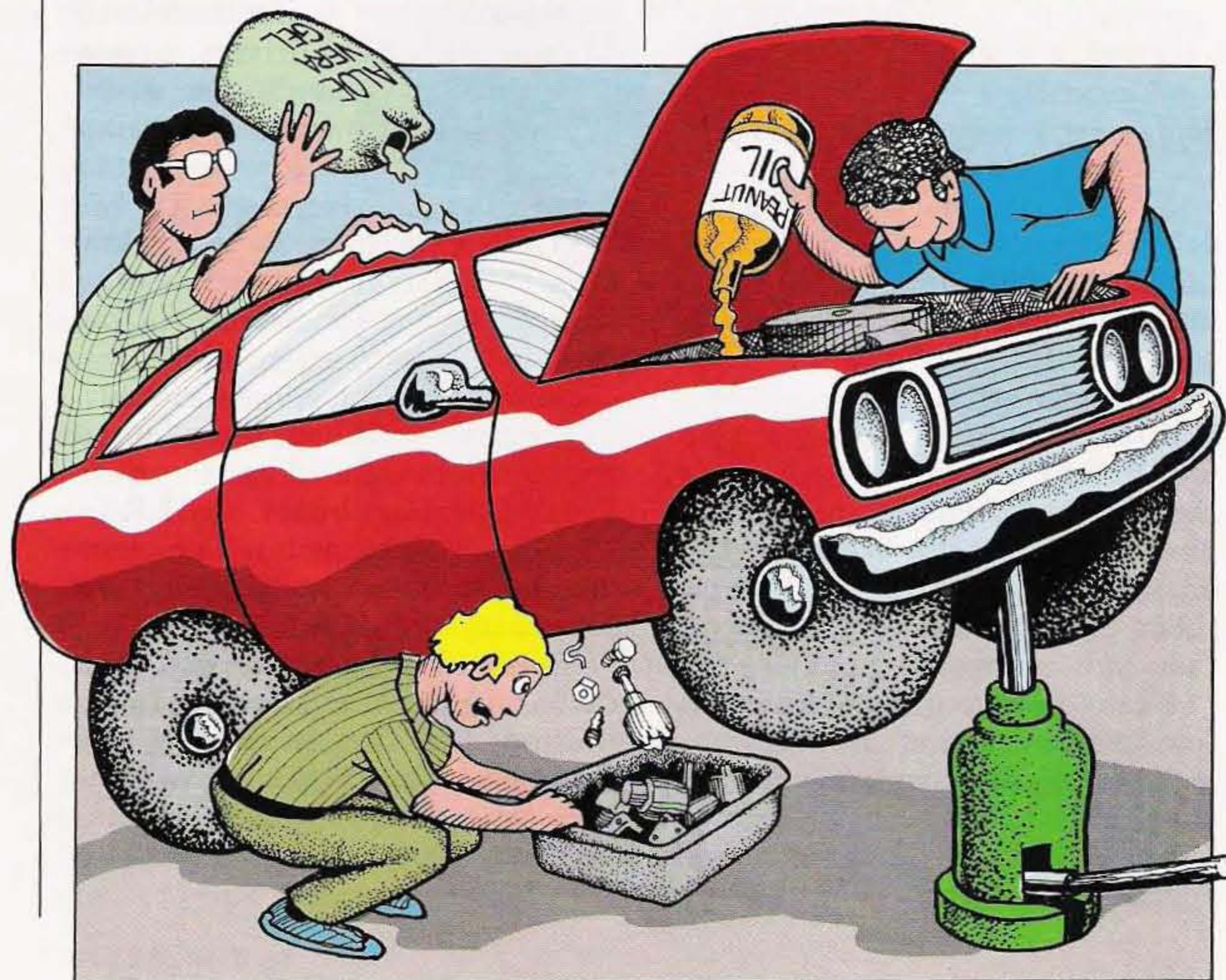
the plug with a wrench until you can unscrew it by hand. Remove the plug and let the old oil drain out into the container. Then make sure to replace the drain plug.

After the oil has drained, unscrew the old oil filter. Most oil filters can be unscrewed by hand, but if yours is stubborn, you may need to use a special oil filter wrench. With your fingers, spread a thin layer of clean oil around the bottom edge of the new filter, then screw it on hand tight.

Now you're ready to add the new oil. Unscrew the oil cap at the top of the engine and pour in the fresh oil. An oil spout or a funnel will help keep oil from dripping all over the engine.

Replace the oil cap and clean and replace your tools and the job is done. You can get rid of the old oil by pouring it into sealable containers and taking it to a service station that has an oil recycling center.

How often the oil needs to be changed depends on what kind of car it is and how hard it is driven. One thing is for sure, though, keeping your car's oil clean will help it have a long, trouble-free life. — *By Robert C. Taylor* □



## Friends in the Family

"I'm feeling sick and John's being mean to me!" sobbed Cheryl.

John's family had just started out on a long trip when Cheryl, his 7-year-old sister, said she felt carsick. She was squirming and crowding John in the hot



backseat. John pushed her over, and she started to cry.

Dad stopped the car and told John to behave or miss out on dinner that evening. That was always the way it went. *He* got in trouble, while *she* got her own way!

Do you ever feel like your brother or sister is getting away with something while you get



punished for it? Do you feel hurt when your brother or sister does better at something than you, or left out when he or she gets attention from your parents?

Nearly everyone has had this happen. Often it seems there is nothing we can do about it. But there is. Remember, though, trying to change other people won't work.

The best way to begin solving this problem is by changing ourselves. Here are a few ways to help ease the tension.

- When we compare ourselves with others, it generally leads to problems. You and your brother or sister are different from each other. Since you each have strong points and weak points, you could both find reasons to feel less important or less liked.

Since you are different, you won't always like the same things or feel the same way. Don't assume that your brother or sister will always want what

you do. That attitude can be the cause of many arguments.

- Be a friend to your brothers and sisters. Treat them better than you would your friends at school. School friends will come and go, but brothers and sisters will always be with you. Build a friendship with them that will last a lifetime.

Especially encourage and help your younger brothers and sisters. Remember that, even if they don't seem to, they look up to you as an example.

If you have older brothers or sisters, don't be jealous of things they are allowed to do that you are not. Begin working now to show your parents you are trustworthy and responsible. They will soon begin giving you similar privileges.



- Give your brothers and sisters room to breathe. No matter how close your family is, they need some privacy.

- If you still feel that your parents are favoring one of your brothers or sisters more than you, talk to your parents about it. Tell them how you feel — and ask them how *they* feel — about your relations to each other. If you want them to listen to you about this delicate subject, you'll need to listen to them too.

- Don't forget God's input. In prayer, ask God to show you

His will in the matter and ask Him to help everyone involved to do it. And remember — His answer may not always be that you are in the right and everyone else is wrong. You may have to make some changes too.

It will take some work and patience, but the rewards of a lasting friendship with your brother or sister will be worth it. — *By Sandi Borax* □

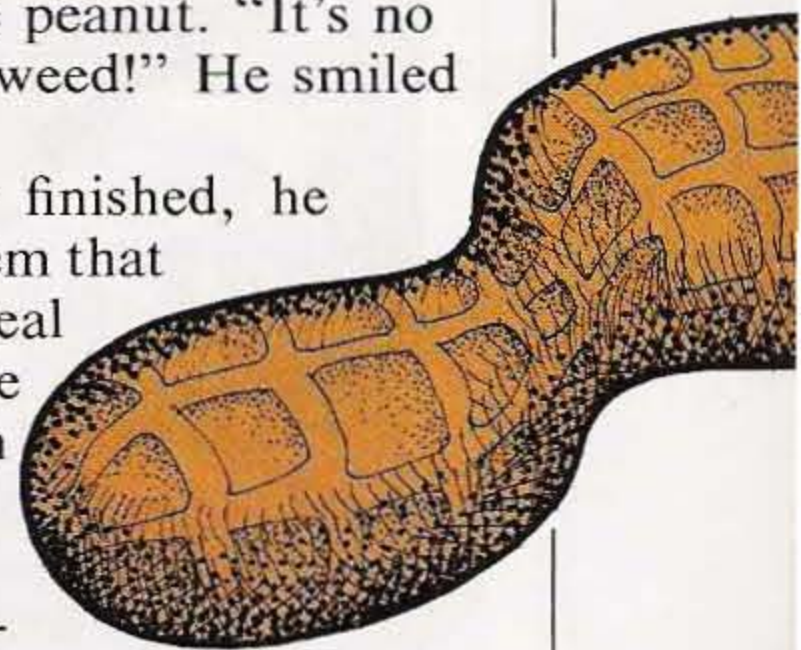
## And They Called It a Weed!

As the men sat down to eat dinner, they didn't know they would also be eating their own words. The small group of Alabama businessmen was about to be tricked into making a point for George Washington Carver, a professor at the Tuskegee Institute.

He urged them to be seated and enjoy their meal — steaming soup, succulent chicken, creamed vegetables, warm bread, a crisp green salad, a fresh cup of coffee and dessert of ice cream, candy and cookies.

As they ate, Dr. Carver remembered that they had told him he was crazy to want to replace cotton as the main crop in the southern United States with, of all things, peanuts. In the early 1900s, cotton was king. To them, the peanut was a joke. "Nothing that grows that easy can be any good," everyone had said about the peanut. "It's no better than a weed!" He smiled as they ate.

When they finished, he calmly told them that the whole meal had been made entirely from the peanut plant. At first, they didn't be-





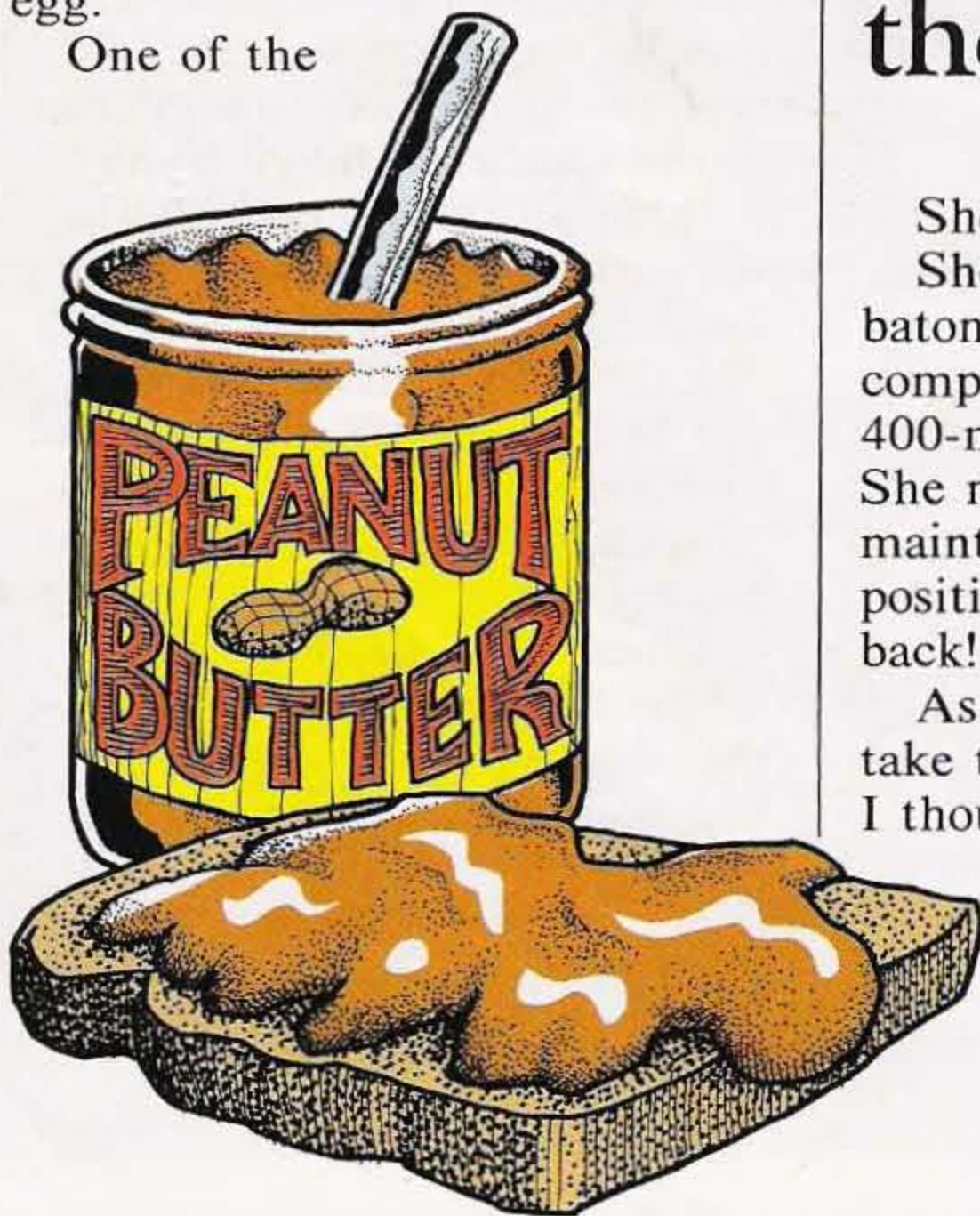
lieve him. They thought he was joking. But his calm smile convinced them otherwise. As it dawned on them what he had accomplished, they began to applaud.

The applause hasn't stopped. Professor Carver spread his surprising discoveries about the peanut to people around the world. Before he died in 1943, he discovered more than 300 uses for it: flour, ink, dyes, shoe polish, shaving cream, paper, insulation, imitation marble, cheese and milk among them.

Professor Carver and the peanut helped change that southeastern area of the United States. Instead of relying only on cotton, a crop that had kept many people in poverty, many farmers switched to growing peanuts and saw a change in their fortunes.

Professor Carver's discoveries showed the world that the peanut was far more than a useless weed. It is actually one of the most nutritious foods in the world. A pound of peanuts has more protein than a pound of steak and provides twice as much energy. Just 15 peanuts have more protein than one egg.

One of the



Illustrations by Monte Wolverton

most popular ways to enjoy this nutrition is in peanut butter.

What's especially nice is that it's so easy to make. Here's how.

### Peanut Butter

1 cup of peanuts without shells (1½ cups of peanuts in the shell will give you 1 cup once the shells have been removed). Make sure you use fresh, roasted peanuts — but not ones that have been salted or cooked in oil.

1 tablespoon of peanut oil or other vegetable oil.

Place the peanuts in a covered blender and blend until they form a smooth paste.

Depending on how much oil is in your peanuts, you may have to add some oil to make it smooth.

Salt to taste. — *By Lowell Wagner Jr.* □

## Proverbs for Today: Keep Your Eyes on the Goal

She looked back!

She had just received the baton. Her teammate had completed the first leg of the 400-meter relay, with the lead. She needed a swift start to maintain her teammate's position. But instead, she looked back!

As I watched her hesitate and take that over-the-shoulder look, I thought about this proverb:

“Let your eyes look straight ahead, and your eyelids look right before you. Ponder the path of

your feet, and let all your ways be established” (Proverbs 4:25-26).

In a race, the runner must not break stride by looking back to check up on his opponents. Attention must be kept focused on the finish line.

It is the same way in any endeavor. To succeed, you must have a finish line — a goal. Know exactly where you are going, and the rules for getting there. Then, keep your eyes on that goal!

The relay runner failed to keep her eyes straight ahead. Precious seconds were lost. Her team was beaten in the final leg by just a few steps — the time it took her to look back.

It is easy to get distracted after our minds are made up to achieve something. It can be an unexpected obstacle, or some other interest that comes along and looks attractive. We can jump from one thing to another without excelling at anything. It is far better to concentrate on one goal at a time.

You need education, good health, drive, resourcefulness



and perseverance to reach your goal. And don't avoid seeking God's help to pursue the right goals His way.

To learn more about goals, write for the free booklet, *The Seven Laws of Success*. It will help you be an achiever.

Set goals worthy of your best efforts, and don't look back!

“Let your eyes look straight ahead.” — *By Jim Roberts* □



# Teen Bible Study

## **THINK** Before You Speak

By Richard A. Sedliacik

Do your words sometimes get you in trouble? Have you ever said something you wish you hadn't? Perhaps you were angry and made some cutting remarks, only to regret them later.

What we say and how we say it can have a big effect on our lives, and the lives of others. Saying the right thing at the right time can even mean the difference between success and failure. That's why it's so important to think before we speak!

In this study, you'll learn vital tips from the Bible about the wise use of your tongue. Applying them will improve your ability to get along with others and help you make more friends.

But before you begin this study, be sure to get your Bible, a pen or pencil and some paper. Reading and writing out the scriptures that answer the questions asked will help you remember the important principles you'll be learning.

1. Can our words have a great impact on the lives of others? Summarize James 3:2-10. Can improper or careless words result in anger and fighting? Proverbs 18:6-7, 12:18 (first part). But can the right words be soothing and of great benefit? Proverbs 12:18 (last part), 12:25, 15:4, 16:24.

Each day we come in contact with many people — family, friends, teachers, employers and others. What we say and how we say it not only affects them, but also us, either positively or negatively. And once spoken, our words cannot be taken back!

King Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived (1 Kings 3:11-12), knew and understood the importance of being careful with words. He gave specific guidelines about what to say and what not to say, how to say it and when to say it.

2. Did Solomon show that there is a time for everything, including a time to speak and a time to keep silent? Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7. Should one say the first thing that comes to

mind, or think about it first before saying it? Proverbs 29:20, 15:28, James 1:19.

It is tempting, especially when angry, to say the first thing that pops into your mind. But don't! Pause for a few seconds and think about what to say. You may decide to keep your mouth closed and wait for a better time and place to respond. Be sure that whatever you do say is fit for the occasion.

3. Will the person who gives a right answer at the appropriate time experience joy and delight? Proverbs 15:23, 25:11. Will he spare himself from trouble? Proverbs 21:23.

4. Notice what effect words can have on an angry person. Will a soft (gracious and polite) answer calm him, whereas an insult only make him angrier? Proverbs 15:1.

Harsh words will usually lead an angry person to think his anger is justified. This could further upset him and even cause him to harm you in some way. By staying calm and not raising your voice, you will avoid unnecessary quarrels and friction.

5. Did Solomon stress the importance of always telling the truth? Proverbs 19:9, 20:17, 12:19, 22. Is being truthful one of the Ten Commandments? Exodus 20:16.

There is often a temptation to mislead and deceive others, or to twist the facts in one's favor. But don't do it! Honesty is always the best policy, even if it hurts.

Also avoid making rash or hasty promises that you know you won't be able to keep. Think twice before you promise to do something you may have to back out of, thereby making yourself a liar and hurting your credibility (Ecclesiastes 10:1). Make sure you will be able to follow through with your promises.

6. Some people, it seems, are always talking, rarely giving anyone else a chance. They don't seem to know when to stop. But is the person who spares his words wise? Proverbs 15:2, 10:19, 17:27-28.

If you are the type that dominates



conversations, next time stop and think before you speak. Ask yourself: "Is my comment going to be helpful?" If in doubt, don't say it — just go ahead and listen.

Most people who talk a lot are not good listeners because they are too busy thinking about what to say next. Therefore they miss important details, and will often interrupt with their own comments, or try to answer a matter before they even know the issues (Proverbs 18:13). Being a good listener goes a long way to building friendships, and you'll find yourself learning a lot more in the process!

**7.** Occasionally we meet boasters who brag about their abilities, importance or lofty plans for the future. Should a person think twice before boasting? Proverbs 27:1, James 3:5. Should he let someone else praise him instead? Proverbs 27:2.

How much more rewarding and satisfying it is to receive recognition from someone else — perhaps an employer or a teacher — than to praise oneself. People will be more likely to believe good words spoken about you by others rather than by yourself.



In a crowd of people, all kinds of conversations can be heard — good and bad. (Photo by Warren Watson)

**8.** Is it best to avoid certain topics in our conversations? Ephesians 5:3-4, 11-12.

**9.** Will a wise person refrain from criticizing or putting people down and gossiping about them? Proverbs 11:12-13. What harm can be caused by gossip? Proverbs 16:28, 17:9, 26:20-21.

One can end up hurting the reputation of another (often unjustly), and even separate good friends through gossip. Before repeat-

ing a matter, be sure it is truthful and won't harm the person you're talking about.

If you know of something that could hurt the credibility and reputation of another, don't repeat it. If you can't say something nice about another person, why say anything at all?

**10.** Should we rather try to build up and encourage others? I Thessalonians 5:11, Ephesians 4:29.

Show concern for others. Help and encourage them to do their best and excel in all areas of life. By looking for the good character traits in other people, we won't be so quick to find and point out their faults and shortcomings.

**11.** What is the great principle we should apply in our speech? Matthew 7:12.

We should treat people the way we would like to be treated. This often also has a benefit for us because people tend to treat us the way we treat them. Our manner of speech will often determine this. Being friendly, honest and sincerely striving to encourage others will tend to motivate them to do the same for us.

**12.** Was King David careful about what he said? Psalm 39:1. Did he look to God for help to control his tongue? Psalms 19:14, 141:3.

**13.** Will God also give us the wisdom we need to temper our speech, if we ask Him? James 1:5, Proverbs 2:6-7, 3:5-6, Isaiah 50:4.

Ask God daily for the wisdom to say the right thing at the right time. He will give you that wisdom, if you sincerely desire it, and are trying to do those things that please Him (I John 3:22).

**14.** Will the person who thinks before he speaks, who says what is proper and truthful, experience numerous blessings and benefits? Proverbs 13:3, 16:13, 22:11, I Peter 3:10-11.

A person who is careful in what he says will enjoy peace of mind and be blessed in other ways, knowing that he has not offended others by careless or unkind remarks. He will not have to worry about lies catching up with him.

But as the Bible and human experience show, failing to exercise control over what we say can create needless difficulties for ourselves and others.

So guard your mouth. Try to always say the right thing at the right time. Be sure to think before you speak! □



# Dear Youth 84,

*Practical Bible-based answers to the problems of growing up.*

**Q. I am a 14-year-old freshman girl. This year in school we have a sex education course as part of our health class. The problem is that the course is coed, and I feel very, very embarrassed during the discussions. Is this normal?**

**A.** Yes, it is quite normal. The reason for your embarrassment is rooted in the false values and concepts about sex that permeate our society. These false concepts, as explained by Editor-in-Chief Herbert W. Armstrong in *Youth 84* articles, have been injected into society by Satan the devil since the time of Adam and Eve and the first human sin.

Even though you may have healthy and biblical attitudes about sex, and have been perhaps taught properly by your parents, probably most of the rest of the students have not been taught properly. Therefore you could not help but feel some discomfort as you hear various views expressed.

The proper place for a teen to learn about sex is first and foremost from his or her parents, if, that is, they hold right attitudes themselves.

We also have a book on this subject, *The Missing Dimension in Sex*. You can learn more about healthy, biblical attitudes toward sex in this book, and having this wholesome approach and knowledge can reduce your embarrassment. The book is free.

**Q. A friend of mine in high school died in an automobile accident last year. I was very close to her and her sudden death has disturbed me very much because I worry about her. What really does happen to a person when she dies?**

**A.** Your question is one many

people think about. The death of a loved one is a traumatic experience, and it is only natural to wonder about what happens to him or her.

The Bible is clear about the subject, and the answer is quite positive. Everyone will be given life again so that all will have a full chance to learn God's ways and to reach the incredible potential of becoming a literal son of God.

To fully explain this and to show all the scriptures that give the complete answer requires more space than we have available here, so we suggest you read our free booklet, *Life After Death?*

Two other booklets that can help you understand this subject are *What Is the Reward of the Saved?* and *What Will You Be Doing in the Next Life?* You can receive these booklets by calling or writing the *Youth 84* office nearest you. They are listed on the inside front cover.

**Q. In your March issue you stated a person should not marry a cousin and quoted Leviticus 18. I looked up that scripture and could not find cousins mentioned. Could you please explain?**

**A.** Good question. As you noticed, Leviticus 18 does not specifically forbid marrying a cousin. But it does

specify not to marry anyone "near of kin" (verse 6).

The chapter then goes on to list a number of kinsmen one should not marry — brothers, sisters, even aunts and uncles.

In the United States it is against the law in most states to marry a cousin. (Marriages to second cousins are acceptable.) The reason has to do with the strong possibility of genetic imbalance when children are produced from such relationships.

Before the time of Moses, marriages even between brothers and sisters were permitted. But God designed the human family to change. At the time of Moses, God specified that marriages between near relatives should no longer take place.

Over the centuries we have observed that those who do not obey this instruction from God have degenerative physical and mental weaknesses in a large percentage of the offspring. This is even true when cousins marry. So we can conclude from reading the Bible, observing history and consulting the marriage laws in most areas that it would not be proper to marry one's own first cousin or any nearer relative. □

*We welcome your questions and will excerpt as many as possible. Sorry we can't answer them all. Answers are prepared by Bernard W. Schnippert, a minister of the Worldwide Church of God. Address your questions to "Dear Youth 84," 300 W. Green Street, Pasadena, California, 91129.*





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## Your LOVE

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(Continued from page 4)

has lasted only two months may not be based on love, because it has not yet proved itself. Love takes time to grow strong enough to last.

Fourth, although it is accompanied by romantic feelings, real love does not die out even when the first excitement of romance decreases.

Many other things could be said about real love. It is such a deep subject that it takes years to understand fully. But too many people treat it lightly and end up with the kind of love that hurts — with broken romances, painful divorces, premarital pregnancies, miserable marriages.

How sad these results are, especially when you realize that waiting patiently for real love would have led to such tremendous happiness!

### Avoiding the pitfalls

One thing that tends to complicate the matter is this. When you do become attracted to a person, the strong romantic feelings may so overwhelm you that you have great difficulty deciding whether you are really in love or not — even if you know what true love is.

And even if you can tell that it is real love, if you are still a teen, you probably should not get married yet because you haven't had enough time to prepare for the awesome responsibilities of marriage. To understand the many factors involved, you need to read the article in next month's issue, "What Is the Best Age for Marriage?"

Some people think that if you love someone you should marry him or her no matter what. But there must be a lot more to it than that. Are you spiritually, educationally, emotionally, financially and in every other way compatible and prepared for marriage?

Many people wonder how they can be sure that a particular person is compatible with them

— that they've found the right one.

The best way is to get to know a lot of different people of the opposite sex and find out what types of personalities and characteristics you get along with best. Many unhappy marriages result from people narrowing down the field too soon.

So much more could be said on this subject. You may want to go back and read "Good Advice From a Movie Star" in the May issue and the whole series of articles we printed on "Love, Marriage and Sex."

You can avoid the pain of wrong love. Remember that feelings are not themselves love, and can lead to pain and wrong if they are followed blindly.

But right feelings, backed up with right, true love, at the right time and with the right, compatible person, can be more right than just about anything else can be! □

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## My Teacher

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(Continued from page 10)

ice, problems usually become less complicated.

Remember that the best way to approach a teacher, or anyone for that matter, about a disagreement is to show respect. Even if you think he or she is wrong, the teacher is still in authority. Besides, if you approach in a respectful way, trying to find a solution, the teacher is more likely to see your point of view.

Don't explain your feelings in front of a classroom full of students! Don't do anything that will embarrass the teacher or yourself.

You may want to arrange an appointment. Speak to the teacher privately and explain that you really want to cooperate, but you sense friction between you. Ask what you can do to change things.

If you do all this, tensions should decrease and school will become more enjoyable. This could be your best school year ever! □

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## Curious Cults

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(Continued from page 6)

from being deceived by anyone. If a leader puts himself or herself above God or tells you to lie or steal or kill or commit a sexual act "for the cause," you can be sure that cause is not one God would approve of.

What about the group's leader? Does he or she claim to be the perfect person, almost godlike? So righteous and good that this "holy" person doesn't have to follow the same rules as his or her followers? Beware!

Another checkpoint is to watch how scriptures are used. Is most of the Bible practically ignored while the emphasis is on a few scriptures taken out of context? Remember, all scripture, Old and New Testaments, is inspired by God. All of God's instructions should be considered when establishing guidelines to live by.

### Avoid quick decisions

A good rule of thumb is not to allow yourself to be pressured to make a quick decision when you don't have all the facts. Even a seemingly minor one to attend a party or a weekend gathering with people you don't know too well could be a big mistake.

If you are approached by recruiters, refuse their invitations and keep on walking. These kind of "friends" you don't need.

After reading this article, if you feel you are involved with a group that you have some questions about, again, use the Bible and God's commandments for a checklist. If you are being taught anything contrary to the moral standards and values plainly revealed in His Word, your teacher is a false one.

Think clearly, check carefully. Before deciding to do anything, always ask yourself if the decision you're making is really yours or if you're just going along with others. Don't allow yourself to be swayed by some empty emotional experience into joining a group not of God. Remember, He tells us to prove all things. □



## Didn't Believe

(Continued from page 2)

what Satan said. But they do not believe what God said!

And what about modern science and higher education? Like our first parents, they reject revelation (what God says) as a basic source of knowledge. Do they believe there was a flood in the days of Noah?

God says there was, but they do not believe what He says! What about higher education? God says the waters of the Red Sea parted, and the Israelites walked across on the dry floor of the sea. In His Word, God says the walls of the water returned, covering and drowning Pharaoh and his army. But can you find that in the ancient history texts? They don't *believe what God* said!

God shows us the way to world peace — peace between individuals, between groups, between nations. But men do not believe *what God says*, and so we have no peace.

God shows us the way to peace, happiness, prosperity in abundance and eternal life as His gift. But men, except for the *very few*, don't believe what God says! Instead, humanity suffers on! □

## READER BY-LINE

# 'Hey, Look Me Over'

By Jennifer Swihart

As you go to see the Howards' newborn baby, you're excited! You can't wait to see the cute, smiling infant with rosy, pink cheeks who looks like an advertisement for baby food.

Instead, the Howards show you an entirely red, toothless, bald, prune-faced, screaming little creature.

They automatically expect you to say something nice about their baby. They may expect, "Oh, what a cute baby!" But you can't lie. Coming up with nothing to say, you suddenly blurt out, "Well, that sure is a baby, isn't it!"

Early in life, a child begins to learn the social importance of physical appearance. The first books many children read are centered around physical appearance, such as *The Ugly Duckling*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella* and *Dumbo the Elephant*.

I read of a man of age 36 who said, "I was 5 years old when I realized I was ugly, and I've never been the same since." His whole personality has been distorted by this awful misconception.

Children become conscious not only of their own appear-

ance, but also of the appearance of their peers. They call each other nicknames that they think fit the person. Children do not realize that the names they call other children have long-term effects. But, as we all know, they do!

It is our responsibility to encourage those who may have doubts about themselves, not to reinforce those fears.

It's true, not all of us can be the most beautiful or handsome. There are things about the way we look we wish we could change. Maybe our ears stick out too far or someone threatened to go skiing on our nose. Even if these comments have some truth, we must focus on the positive qualities we have. You may say, "What positive qualities?"

Believe it or not, the most important qualities are not appearance, but your personality

and character. You may say that's crazy, but it's true! You would be in deep trouble if you married someone only for his or her looks. In time the looks would be gone — then what would you have?

We have to learn to see people for what they really are. We can appreciate others for their personality and character, and also build more of both of those in ourselves.

As last month's "By the Way..." showed, God doesn't look at the outward appearance, but at the heart. □



*Editor's note: The author, age 18, is from Dayton, Ohio. If you would like to submit an article for this section, send it to: "Reader By-Line," Youth 84, 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, California, 91129.*



BY THE WAY...

# Teens and Booze - The High Price of Abuse

By Dexter H. Faulkner

I recently heard two sad stories about teens and alcohol. Both stories are true — only the names have been changed.

Peter Hart, 17, will live for the rest of his life with the tragic memory of what happened to 18-year-old Sharon Brown. Peter had gone to a party where everyone was drinking — booze, that is. Sharon had gone to a party where everyone was drinking soda pop.

Sharon left her party a few

top of a hill less than a mile from her home, Peter drove up the other side. He crossed the yellow centerline as he crested the hill and hit Sharon head-on! She died instantly, every major organ in her body ruptured. Peter had only a few scrapes and bumps. Tragic! Yes, what a waste!

In another case, a high school senior girl went to a party at a university to visit a girl friend. The high school girl wanted to be just like everybody else, so she walked around at the party with a drink in her hand. Unfortunately, as many new drinkers do, she drank a bit too much too quickly and passed out.

Some young men at the party decided to take advantage of her condition. They removed her clothing and about 12 detestable young men gang-raped this 17-year-old student.

## Frightening memories

Several hours later when she woke up, she was haunted by faint, yet frightening memories of what had happened. What an ugly memory this young girl has to face! Why? Because she acted irre-

sponsibly. (Not to mention the totally immoral, carnal, unjustified act these young men committed!) She went along with the crowd and didn't use her head. Again, a tragic waste!

It's a sad commentary, but drinking permeates our society in a negative way.

Even though we try not to be affected by the bad in this world, society's pressures strongly influence all of us. We must seriously look at the problem of teenage alcoholism — a problem that can powerfully affect you and those you love.

Can you guess what the No. 1 cause of teenage deaths is? Drinking and driving — 9,000 teens die every year in alcohol-related automobile accidents in the United States alone. That is comparable to one average-size high-school science class disappearing every day of the year!

On the average, teens begin to drink between the ages of 13 and 14. Of those 13 and younger, 24 percent drink frequently enough and in large enough quantities to be called moderate drinkers.

Shockingly, one out of four students 13 to 18 can be defined as problem drinkers.

Where do teens drink? Fifty-three percent do their drinking while driving or while sitting in a parked car (having yet to get home safely).

The next obvious question is, *why* do teens drink? Three reasons stand out in research: parental example, escapism and seeking acceptance.

## An adult behavior?

Most teens get their first drink at home with the family, which is fine if the parents are properly setting the right temperate example. However, many

(Continued on page 29)



minutes before Peter left his. Peter's friends warned him not to drive home, but he was determined to show he could "handle his booze."

As Sharon drove toward the



## Price of Abuse

(Continued from page 28)

teens see their parents' or others' wrong drinking habits as adult behavior they want to copy. Parental example must not be underestimated.

Escapism, the second reason, is defined by one teen as "letting the world drift away." Many teens drink because it temporarily relieves the frustrations and anxieties of growing up.

A typical story of an early drinker is that of a student who is tired, discouraged and feels inferior academically. A few drinks may make him or her feel bright and witty. On the other hand, an athletically inclined student may be frustrated because he or she isn't strong enough or fast enough and a few drinks seem to give him or her more confidence and power.

The third most popular reason teens give for drinking is to be accepted — to blend in with the crowd. Some teens feel that their peers will like them more readily if they do the same things. Actually, though, a teen may gain more respect from peers if he or she is different in a good way and stands up for his or her values.

Teenagers who find themselves drinking heavily are not free of problems and independent. They may have thought they were when they began to drink, but they soon find themselves dependent instead. Life can be much more exciting without a habit that costs money and involves lying to and possibly stealing from one's parents, and that leads to unhappiness.

Life without such a habit can mean life without the guilt of knowing you're doing something wrong — a life in which your senses are sharp and you are alert — a life in which you can have good, clean fun and not suffer a hangover!

### A mocker

The Bible has a word or two to say about drinking. Proverbs 20:1 says, "Wine is a mocker, intoxi-

cating drink arouses brawling, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise."

Isaiah 5:11, paraphrased, says, "Woe to you who get up early in the morning to go on long drinking bouts that last till late at night — woe to you drunken bums!"

Not only does the Bible speak directly about drinking and drunkenness, but it also gives general principles.

For example, God tells children to honor their fathers and mothers. Is getting drunk behind your parents' back, lying to them about where you've been, coming in later than they asked, risking your life and others' in a car driven by a drunk person — is all this honoring your parents?

The Bible also says to be moderate in all things. Getting drunk or drinking too often is not moderation, and God had that principle recorded in the Bible for our well-being.

Often, God lets us suffer the consequences of our actions. After all, the Bible says, "Whatever a man [or woman] sows, that he [or she] will also reap" (Galatians 6:7).

The habit of drinking in excess is one to avoid. It can lead to a life of guilt, as Peter Hart has to lead. It can mean leaving your parents grief-stricken because you were killed in an alcohol-related automobile accident. If used as an escape from frustrations, such a habit can leave you with immature emotions and lacking the ability to solve your problems later in life.

Teenage alcoholism is a major problem today, but the fact that many teens are plagued with it doesn't mean all have to be. After reading this article, you know the statistics — you know the dangerous and tragic situations that can occur because of improper alcohol use. Will you make the same mistake?

If you would like to share your experiences or thoughts on this subject, please write to us and let us hear them. We would be interested in printing some of your comments. □

## Sports

(Continued from page 18)

or anything in between. It all depends on the attitude of the players, coaches and spectators. To know what the right attitude is we need to look to our Maker, the great God. His basic law is love, an outflowing concern toward others.

### Attitudes: wrong and right

To harm the other fellow in order to gain for self is a wrong attitude. To selfishly desire to "beat" the opponent, to be hostile toward him or her is not God's way — but to strive to do your best or to help your team do its best is right. Winning or losing is only a by-product of two teams or individuals striving to do their best. We should not be so selfish that if the big "I" doesn't win, it's a disaster.

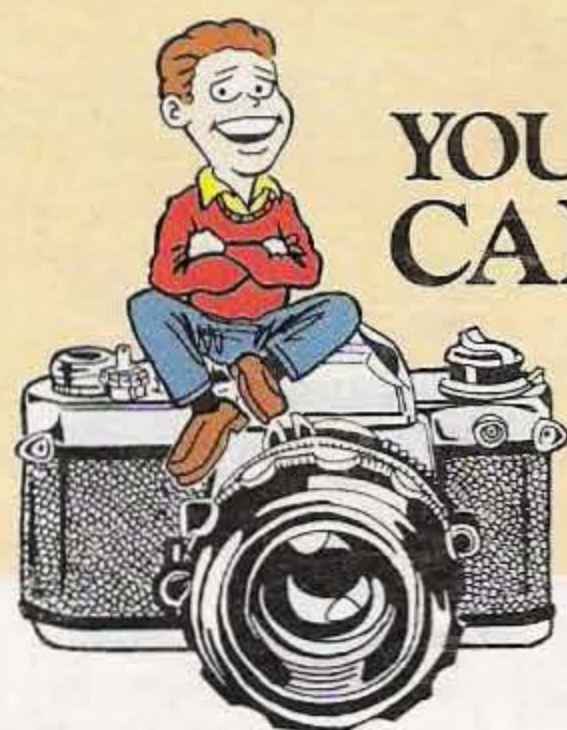
There is a competitive spirit being alive today who is the god of this world (II Corinthians 4:4) and its sports. His way is the "me-first" philosophy. He broadcasts an attitude of harm, hostility, selfishness and rivalry to human minds. Soon, he is going to be put in a place where he is restrained (Revelation 20:1-3) from influencing human activities, including the field of sports. And God will then make it possible for us all to have a different attitude.

The Creator has determined to "take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them" (Ezekiel 11:19-20). Humanity will be able to think differently, to have a right and understanding attitude.

And in the day that Jesus Christ rules the world — a message we announce in *Youth 84* — all nations will come to Him to learn the right way of living. And when they ask concerning the subject of sports, they will be advised along the lines you've just read. All sports are going to be beautiful. You can count on it. □



Photographer — Doug Mylymok  
Age 15  
Summerland, British Columbia



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MICHAEL ANTHONY STEPHENS  
PO BOX 1039  
JAMESTOWN TN 38556

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