

The

Apostolic Faith

Report

*For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten son,
that whosoever believeth in Him
should not perish, but have
everlasting life.*

John 3:16

FEB. 1981

VOL. 28 NO. 2

Trinity of the God—Head

1 John 5:7

Repentance [Act of Man]

Mark 1: 14*-15

2 Peter 3:9

Acts 3:19

Conversion [Justification] [Act of God]

Matt. 18:3

Acts 13:38, 39

II Cor. 5:17

Consecration [Act of Man]

Romans 12: 1,2

Sanctification [Act of God]

[A second definite work of grace]

Neb. 13: 12,13

Ephesians 5: 25*-27

I Thess. 5:23

Baptism of the Holy Ghost

Luke 3:16

Acts 1:5

Acts 2:4

Acts 10:45, 46

Divine Healing

Matt. 4:23

I Peter 2:24

James 5: 14-16

Ordinances

Water Baptism [by immersion]

Matt. 28:19

Romans 6: 3,4

The Lords Supper

Matt. 26: 26-28

I Cor. 11: 23-30

Feet Washing

John 13: 4-5, 14

NO Divorce and Remarriage

Luke 16:18

I Cor. 7:39

Second Coming of Christ

John 14:3

Acts 2:11

Matt. 24:30

Thousand Year Reign of Christ

Rev. 20:6

Rev. 20:4

Conditional Immortality

[Life through Christ]

John 10:10

I John 5:11, 12

Romans 2:7

Destruction of the Wicked

Matt. 7:13

II Thes. 1:7-9

Romans 6:23

Mal. 4:1

Tithes and Offerings

Mal. 3:8, 10

Luke 11:42

**Doctrinal
Teachings
Of The
Apostolic
Faith**

Tested — Proven

I read an article of a man that had been given a Bible by his mother. As he thumbed through the Bible he noticed the letters T-P written next to many, many scriptures. He asked his mother what the letters T-P stood for and she replied, Tested-Proven. Each scripture she personally had tested and God had proved himself over and over again.

In the world today we have many institutions and companies who spend untold millions of dollars and hours testing and proving the goods that we buy for our use. Everything from food to machinery are tested and either approved and disapproved. Those that are not are disposed of or corrected until they are approved. Most of us are usually pretty careful when we are buying something. We want to be sure it works and if it doesn't we send it back.

But in the religious world today it seems to be different. There are multitudes who are placing their trust in cults, teachings of men, and strange God's instead of placing their soul's salvation in the care of the living God who is eternal and has proven Himself faithful and true. Down through the pages of time and history, Satan has attempted to disprove the diety and the omnipotence of God, only to fail with every attempt. Truly God is great!

Twenty-one years ago God in all of His love and mercy spoke to my heart and made me to know how much I needed Him. Since that time, each day God has proven Himself to be true and faithful. God has met my every need spiritually, physically, and materially. There have been times that God has moved instantly, other times when I needed to just trust Him and let Him work on His own way, which was always

right, but always He has proven faithful and has never failed nor forsaken.

In Psalms 37:4 David tells us that he has never seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread.

May you and I always keep our confidence in the living God who truly is tested and proven in all things.

The longer I serve Him the sweeter He grows.

—Karen

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

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Please send all changes of address, giving both old and new addresses, and Zip Code.

AFBC News

Dear readers:

Our spring semester opened January 12, with 22 full-time students enrolled. We are enjoying the daily routine and have felt the presence of the Lord in the classes and services. We are thankful for these students and for their eagerness to study God's word.

The activities for this semester include the choir tour to the south Texas, Mississippi, and Alabama areas in March and also Convocation will precede the close of school this year. The date of May 12, 13, and 14 are set aside for Convocation during which time we will include the final choir concert, dedication/ordination service, graduation and the annual business meeting. We trust that you can make plans to visit us for these special services and at any other time. This is your school and our doors are open to you.

Sincerely,
Lyndel Arnall, superintendent

FROM THE BOYS' DORM

Greetings to all of you from the boy's dorm. We are back on the job for another semester and it seems that this is going to be a better semester than the last one, not that the last one wasn't good and profitable one. We have gotten off to a real good start. Already six of the fellows have prayed through to deeper experiences in the Lord in receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit. There is a wonderful spirit among all of the fellows, and all of the students in general. I am praising the Lord for the willingness of the students to deepen their lives in the things of the Lord. I have eleven students in the dorm this semester; two did not return, and I have one new student.

During the semester break we had a wonderful time fellowshiping with God's people during the Convocation at Spearman, Texas where we enjoyed the wonderful Spirit filled messages and the presence of the Holy Spirit. We filled in for our pastor while he was away for Christmas. We visited the Church at Roswell, N.M. and enjoyed the wonderful fellowship with the pastor, his wife and family, as well as with the wonderful people of the church. May the Lord bless all of you out that way.

May the Lord bless every Church that is holding us up in prayer. Pray for your students. May each of you have the greatest year in 1981 that you have ever had is my prayer.

R.C.B.

FROM THE GIRLS' DORM

We have just had a great holiday season. A season to think about what the Lord has done for us and what we have done for Him. Did we do all we could have done for Him?

He had given us a new Year to be used of Him and to do more for Him this year. This is a New Year and a New Semester here at school. It is a great opportunity for studying God's Word and applying it to our lives.

This semester I have 9 girls in the dorm. Two less than last semester. Anita Oakes and Julie Satcher are not with us and we all miss them. We pray that God will bless them and use them as they work in their home churches. God Bless you girls.

We are really looking forward to a great semester of

school. There is much to learn and to study. Not only in learning the Bible but also in learning about each other. We have a great time of fellowship with each other. What a place to meet good friends and to be able to share with one another. You know you can go to anyone and they will share with you and will pray with you.

What a blessing each one of the girls are to me.

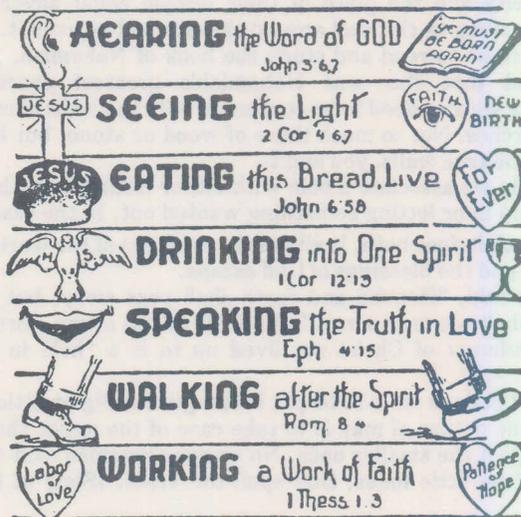
Thank you all for your prayers and your support for the school. We would not be hewre if it were not for the people of our Churches. Please continue to remember us in your prayers. God Bless you all.

Love,
TB

Pearls Of Promise

Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies.

Psalms 60:12



DEADLINE!

Copy must be in by the 15th of the month to be in the next month's issue.

Expense Report

Total expenses of the Apostolic Faith Report for 1980 were \$8,606.48. Income totals were \$8,693.11.

Thank you each one for your support, financially and prayerfully.

K.O.

Stand In The Gap

The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. And it came to pass in the month Chisleu, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the palace, that Hanani, one of my brethren, came, he and certain men of Judah; and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem. And they said unto me, the remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire. (Neh. 1:1-3)

What a sad and heartbreaking report this was for Nehemiah to hear concerning his brethren, his homeland, and the Holy city of Jerusalem. Hehemiah didn't ask about these things for conversation sake. We realize in verse four, he must have been very concerned and burdened.

And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of Heaven. (Neh. 1:4)

Now as we begin to put this in perspective we see that the church today should mean as much to us as the city of Jerusalem meant to Nehemiah. Nehemiah realized their sacred city and the place of their temple could never be secure as long as the wall around the city had holes in it. As you continue to read and study the book of Nehemiah, you will find that this was Nehemiah's greatest concern. Likewise we also need to be concerned with the walls around our churches. Not so much those of wood or stone, but let's look at the true walls, you and I.

Usually we associate a hole with either letting something unwanted in or letting something wanted out. In the case of the church it does both. It allows the criticism of the world to come in and the blessings of God escape.

Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." (Matt. 24:35) so every word or commandment of Christ not lived up to is a "hole in the wall."

I don't believe sin is to be put in categories; Big or little. It seems the nature of man is to take care of the major things and neglect the smaller ones. No wonder Solomon said that it was "the little foxes, that spoil the vines. (Song of Sol. 2:15)

As we look into God's word and our lives, let us see if there are any little holes that are spoiling our walls, our lives and our services.

In the book of Romans in the first chapter we find that envy, backbiters, proud, whisperers, and covenant breakers are listed along beside fornicators, murderers and haters of God.

In the book of Jude, we find that Jude said Enoch prophesied that the Lord would come to execute judgment on ungodly people who had committed ungodly deeds. He went on then in verse 16 to name them. These are murmerers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men's persons in admiration because of advantage. (Jude 16)

We have just mentioned murmuring, complaining, envy, strife, whisperers, gossips, backbiters, and other little things that aren't thought much about, but God's word says they are just as bad as murder, stealing, homosexuality, ect

... If these little holes are allowed to keep on leaking, they will become big holes that can't be stopped.

This gospel that we preach and teach to be the best is not worth anything if we can't live up to it. For our sake and those that live around us, let's not be a "HOLE in the wall."

And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none. (Ezekial 22:30)

In this chapter God tells of his judgment on the land of Israel and the city of Jerusalem. He also tells of the sins of her priests, her prophets, and the people of the land. How sad and hurt God must have felt when he looked for a man among them to stand in the gap before him and he could'nt find one. I wonder if he would feel the same way today when he needs someone to fill the holes in the walls of his church.

"That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Eph. 5:26, 27.

If we expect to be in this church that Christ will present to himself; we will have to be just like he said in this verse: "So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work." Neh. 4:6

As we look at this great work Nehemiah done and we see how God worked in his life. He gave Nehemiah a job to do and just as he always does, He supplied him with what he needed to do that job. Did you know that with all of God's strength and grace, the job still won't be done unless you and I have a mind to work. A determination to see the job finished.

Let us all work together to stand in the gap, to make up the hedge, and to rebuild the walls of our churches.

— By Dwight Wilson

The Printed Page

Never flinches, Never shows cowardice; It is never tempted to compromise; It never tires, Never grows disheartened; It travels cheaply, and requires no hired hall; It works while we sleep; It never loses its temper; It works long after we are dead.

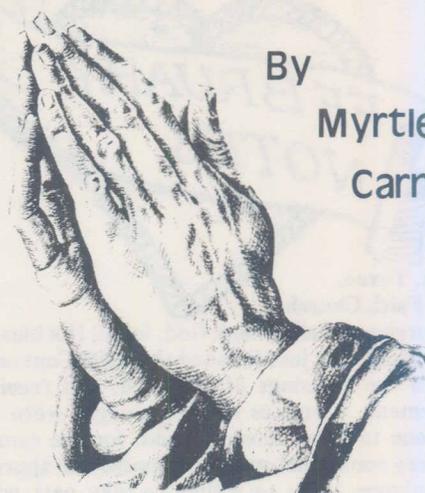
The printed page is a visitor which gets inside the home and stays there; It always catches a man in the right mood, for it speaks to him only when he is reading it; It always sticks to what it has said, and never answers back, and it is bait left permanently in the pool.

OUR PROBLEM

We mutter and sputter,
We fume and we spurt,
We mumble and grumble
Our feelings get hurt.
We can't understand things,
Our vision grows dim,
When all that we need is:
A moment with HIM.

Our daily bread

Matt. 6:11



By
Myrtle
Carney

Fellowship of prayer

(Based on Song of Solomon 2:14)

*I walked alone amid the throng
Of pressured heavy snares,
And did not know there was escape
Within the secret stairs.*

*But once in heavy sorrow
And bent in dark despair,
I cried for help beside the door
Which opened to the stair.*

*The winding stairway pointed up
Through dimness and cool air,
And there I found Him waiting,
The Owner of the stair.*

*And up the stony, ancient steps
I heard Him speaking there:
"O come, my love, my undefiled,
Upon the secret stair.*

*"So few have known, so few have found
The ugly, stony door
Will open to a world apart.
Show me thy face once more.*

*"Speak with thy voice, for it is sweet;
Thy countenance how fair!
Climb up, for I am waiting
At the heading of the stair."*

*The world recedes, the pressures lift,
Forgotten is my care;
For I have gained the presence
Of the Builder of the stair.*

*I kiss His hand and bathe His feet
With tears of joy—aware
That He has stooped to lift me,
This Master of the stair.*

*And in His everlasting arms
No earth sweet can compare
With what He whispers, "Stay, my dove,
Above the secret stair."*

—RUBY COPELAND HARRIS

Evening and morning and at noon will I pray, and cry aloud, and he shall hear my voice. **Psa. 55:17**

Let us lift up our hearts with our hands unto God in the heavens. **Lam. 3:41**

When thou prayest, enter into thy closet and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret, and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. **Matt. 6:6**

In every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. **Phil. 4:6**

The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. **James 5:16**

PRAYER

O Holy Spirit of God, abide with us;
inspire all our thoughts,
pervade our imaginations;
suggest all our decisions;
order all our doings.

Be with us in our silence and in our speech,
in our haste and in our leisure,
in company and in solitude,
in the freshness of the morning and in the weariness of the evening;
and give us grace at all times humbly to rejoice in thy mysterious companionship.

—John Baillie

AF Report



**Spearman, Texas,
Apostolic Faith Church**

As a church we really thank God, for all His blessings both large and small. We just finished the 1980 Convocation. We all enjoyed the blessings of the Lord, and received much encouragement. Seems as many messages were admonishing everyone to draw closer to God, for the coming of the Lord, is very soon. Just want to express our appreciation to all the ministers to be so willing to take part when called upon.

Monday—December 29, 1980 the speakers were the following: 10:15 a.m. Brother Jacob Regeir; 2:00 p.m. Brother Robert Beydler; 7:00 p.m. Brother Savoy Grimmer

Tuesday—December 30, 1980 speakers were: 9:30 a.m. Brother E. W. Dickson; 10:15 a.m. Brother Otto Busch; 2:00 p.m. Brother Floyd Lamunyon; 7:00 p.m. Brother Roland Busch;

Wednesday—December 31, 1980 speakers were: 9:30 a.m. Brother Kevin Cornell; 10:15 a.m. We ask all the ministers' wives to give their testimony, then turned the service to the speaker Brother Harrol Waterbury; 2:00 p.m. Brother Alvin Buschman; 7:00 p.m. Brother Ed Cass, from Lubbock, Texas, came and showed us pictures of Israel, and had a question and answer time. Brother Cass, has been to Israel, 4 times. The showing of pictures was the first New Year's Eve service. 10:00 p.m. Began the last service and the speaker was Brother M. D. Methvin. Closed the year 1980 in prayer.

Had good choir singing and special singing. Praise the Lord!

As pastor I'd just like to take the time to say thank you to the Spearman, church, for your full cooperation, you are a great group to work with. Also thanks the outsiders for your prayers and your support in every way.

Brother and Sister Benny Buschman, made it possible for the church to have the overhead fans that were installed before convocation. Just want to say thank you. They really were a big help. May the Lord, bless you.

—Lealand Grimmer, pastor

Joplin, Missouri

The Lord has blessed our church the past year. Although some of our church family have experienced sorrow, through it all the Lord has blessed and supplied every need, giving hope and comfort.

As we begin a new year our prayer is to be stronger as a church and more prayerful as a people.

Our youth group led by Tammy Oakes and Paula Oakes, have been singing specials during some of the services and are a real blessing to our church. Also the children's church choir has blessed us with some of their favorite songs. God bless these dear ones who use their talents for the Lord!

We are all praying and looking forward to a revival in the near future.

—Neil Ragan, pastor

Enid, Oklahoma

We just come to praise the Lord! Our church is alive, growing in numbers but most of all our spiritual lives are growing daily. Our pastor Sister Dorothy Cook is a blessing to us. She is so willing to pray or help in any way, day or night. Her husband has been ill but is much better now. We have enjoyed having Sister Dorothy's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Loyd Kinser of Laverne, Oklahoma in services recently.

The Melvin Shepherd family has moved back to Enid and we are glad to have them in our services.

Brother and Sister George Phares have a new granddaughter presented them by their daughter Linda and her husband Terry Hollers.

Mary Branham from the Enid church was blessed with the opportunity to go on the Cornell-Miller tour to the Holy Land in November, a trip she shall never forget. A report of the trip was given in December during a Sunday evening service. Blessings fell inside, showers fell outside which our land needed.

Our church family enjoyed a Christmas supper and gift exchange. The church presented a new lamp to our pastors.

The church enjoyed a beautiful Christmas program on Sunday night before Christmas. The Lord blessed in every way. Brent and Brenda Wright fixed fruit sacks for everyone.

We have had some new families recently and we thank God for His answer to our prayers.

Come by when you can to visit us. We are located at 3000 block on North Washington. Our mailing address is Route 4 Box 259, Enid, Oklahoma 73701.

—Dorothy Cook, pastor
Mary Branham, reporter

Galena, Kansas

Greetings from Galena!

The Lord has been blessing us. Brother Elmer has been bringing us some very inspiring sermons. We thank the Lord for this.

On December 20, we had our church Christmas supper. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship. On the following Sunday night we had our program. We would like to thank Sister Ava for all the work she did on this. She worked very hard to get it together.

We enjoyed the talents of our Sunday School children.

Brother Howard Whiteley filled in for us while Brother and Sister Christenson and Sandy were gone for Christmas. Brother Whiteley preached Sunday morning and dedicated the baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hart in a very special service with Biblical admonition to all parents. Brother and Sister Gene Cornell were here visiting and he brought the message that evening.

We had a good service on new year's eve, Brother and Sister Whiteley had the service. We had a testimony service and the Lord blessed us all.

Sister May Rowland recently had an accident and broke her arm. It sure is good to see her back in service again.

Sister Tony Bartel has been coming on Wednesday nights to play the piano. We really appreciate her ministry and willingness to help us out. She is a real blessing to us.

Please remember those on our prayer list: Anna Wade, Birdie Noe, Goldie Myers, Mae Tacket, Ruth Archer, and Grace Myers.

—Elmer Christenson, pastor
Donna Kinser, reporter

Joplin Youth Group News

Psalms 37:4 "Delight thyself in the Lord"

The Lord has really been blessing our young people here in Joplin. We have seen the interest of these young people grow, with the desire to reach out to others, and in turn we are growing. Besides our youth service on Sunday nights we all spend many weekend evenings together in fun and excitement, but also in time of devotion. It is important to have good Christian fellowship with the young people.

We have had several new faces in our services and are very pleased with that. More than that it has touched our hearts to see these kids down at the altar, committing their hearts and lives to the Lord. That's what it's all about! Young people are important! God has a special purpose for each one. And He has a special purpose for you.

The songwriter says, "It's my desire to live for Jesus, It's my desire to be like Him." And we are believing that there is more of God's love in store for these young people, because we have seen their desire.

Psalms 37:4 "And he shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

—Tammy Oakes
—Paula Oakes
youth directors

Liberal, Kansas

November 1 Shirley Depew and Dale Stollings from the Perryton Full Gospel church had a fantastic "Sunday School Workshop Plus" in our church. They worked so hard on it and they had so many ideas for visualized songs, visual aids, memory work, bulletin boards, illustrated lessons and overhead projector materials. It was well attended by most of the area churches and proved a blessing to all who came. It was an all-day session and our good ladies served a delicious salad luncheon at noon. We are most grateful to the girls for all their anointed dedication to this project.

Barry Methvin has moved to Liberal and is our new youth director. His musical talents, choir directing, sermons and contact with the young people has been a blessing to us.

We enjoyed a weekend revival with Steve Davis of the Royal Heirs.

May God bless you.

—O. A. Busch, pastor

Taneyville, Mo. Youth Group

The Youth Group of the Taneyville Apostolic Faith Church have recently enjoying carolling and going on a hat ride.

We caroled to the near-by residents of Taneyville. The people would come out on their porches to hear the singing and they would receive a special blessing.

Although there was an accident on the hay ride, which could have been more serious, the Lord undertook and His presence was felt.

Days after the carolling was just a memory there were many reports from different ones that it was just what they needed to lift their spirits and prepare them for the Christmas spirit and for what the Lord had just for them.

Remember the Lord works everything out for good to those that love the Lord and are called according to His purpose.

—Karla Schelf, reporter

50 Years Of Ministry . . .



O.A. Busch

50th year of ministry and 65th birthday open house

Dec. 28, 1980 was O. A. Busch's 65th birthday and this is the 50th year of preaching the gospel, so his wife and children surprised him with an Open House at the parsonage and a card shower. He didn't suspect a thing and was truly surprised. People drove in from as far away as Southeastern Kansas, Joplin, Mo. and Katy, Texas. The house was full of people all afternoon. He also received many, many phone calls, letters and cards. It was an extra special time for Brother Busch and he would like to express his thanks to everyone who came, called or sent cards or wrote a letter.

We would like to express our thanks to all who responded so graciously. We appreciate your expressions of love. May God's blessings rest on each of you.

—Naomi, Jene, Buzz, Leslie, Brad, Brandon
Nickolas Busch

BIBLE QUIZ

How is your Bible I.Q.? The letters in the following have within them the names of 15 books of the Bible. See how many you can find. It may be the last of one word and the first of the next. Then grade yourself!

15—Scholar
12-14—Very Good
10-or less—Dunce

In these remarks are hidden the names of fifteen books of the Bible. It's a real lulu. Kept me looking so hard for facts that I missed the Revelations. I was in a jam especially since the names were not underlined. The truth will come out to numbers of our readers. To others it will be a most fascinating search. Yes there will be some easy to spot and others hard to judge. So we admit it usually results in loud lamentations. One lady says she brews coffee while she puzzles over it. Look it over good it will be a real job.

Answers on page 11

Reports Of Victory In Taneyville, Mo.

A REVIVAL . . .

I dreamed we had a revival . . . I saw a great revival. Why we called the greatest evangelist to come to our church. It was glorious! The church was packed the first night. Each succeeding night more and more people crowded in. There was shouting, singing, a glorious spirit was moving as people laughed and cried and enjoyed the services. I saw all the churches in the area meeting and fellowshiping together, differences were forgotten. Doctrines were laid aside. We loved everyone . . .

The preacher filled our ears with joy, peace, and laughter. We smiled, we quoted *Him* frequently and took him to the best restaurants.

We had the best revival, we had the best evangelist. He was sought after by all the bigger churches, we promised him a great crowd, a good salary, . . . he came . . .

I awoke and found it was time for our revival to really start. The crowds were slim. They melted away during the week to only a few. The preacher, was a young man, dedicated to God and His work. He preached the word of God boldly. He preached about and against *sin*. SIN isn't condemned much anymore. We heard that to do something we knew was wrong, was sin. To destroy the body God had given us, by liquor, cigarettes, snuff, too much food, too many colas, or by worry was sin. We are the temple of the Holy Ghost if we have the Holy Spirit dwelling in us. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." (I Cor. 3:16,17). We heard that jealousy is sin, lying is sin, pride is sin, backbiting is sin. We will not enter into the presence of Jesus the Christ with any of these sins in our lives. "follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord;" (Heb. 12:14)

Some left and didn't come back. It was too hard, this straight preaching evangelist. He didn't say, "Oh, it's okay," and pat us on the back, "I understand, it's hard not to sin." No, he told us where we would be if we allowed ourselves to be entangled again in the bondage of sin.

The old-fashioned altar services are rare these days, but we were blessed to see people crying and praying around these altars. There was victory in Christ as His children labored around the old altars. Cigarettes were laid at the altar and left. Secrets were laid at the altar and left. Heartaches were laid at the altar and left. Each evening as the crowds thinned down the altars seemed to come more alive. Many stayed until they received what they needed from the hand of God. Many more left, too tired to linger on their knees on a cold night. Too tired to miss their favorite TV show. Too tired to wait until . . .

Do you ask me if the revival was a success? Ask God. He knows. He sees the hearts that won victory. He sees the young people that rededicated their lives. He sees the pastor that needed the encouragement; the preacher's wife that sometimes gets weary and needs a special blessing from His hand. Only Jesus knows of the one who timidly accepted a new challenge to live this holy life that Christ calls us into.

I thank God for sending us the REAL THING in this revival, not a fantasy. I thank God for sending us Savoy and

Karen Grimmer to bring the word of God. They are dedicated to His service and lift up His name and exalt Him.

It is a lonely walk they walk. This is a lonely Gospel we preach. It isn't popular, it's not easy, it brings out those who love and agree, and those that gnash their teeth and slander. We know and believe that this Gospel of Christ Jesus, this WHOLE gospel is the truth and must be preached to the ends of the earth.

Praise to our LORD . . . the LORD of hosts.

—The Perrys, Taneyville

A CHRISTMAS PROGRAM . . .

Get the bath robes, borrow some hay, haul down the dusty old manger from the church attic, add some children, a snowy night and joyous hearts and you will have all the ingredients of a Christmas program. Or will you? Let's ask the director . . .

"Thank you Lord for the most precious gift!"

We are really praising the Lord in Taneyville for the Christmas spirit. Not just the spirit that the whole world recognizes at this time of the year, but the real "Christ spirit". For that is what filled our hearts and minds this year.

Personally, I don't think I had ever really felt the real "Christ" in Christmas until this year. So many times I got so caught up in the splendor of packages, Santa Claus and the expense of Christmas. It seemed only at church services did I really remember why we have this joyous season.

This year our pastor, Brother Andy Perry, asked for a Christmas program director. And the Lord gave me a "welcomed" burden for it. I had been praying and asking God for something *special* to do for Him, and this was His answer.

The Holy Spirit led me to a Christmas play. I set about doing something I had never done before. Instead of using just children in the play we used adults, which turned out to be great fun. Everyone I asked to participate was more than happy to help out. After all they were doing it for the Lord!

The night of the play we had a full house and we praise the Lord because it was wonderful! It blessed the audience as well as the cast.

Christ became as real as He was born in Bethlehem that night on our stage. I realized what a precious sacrifice God made by sending His only son to die for us.

Thank you Lord.

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: For he shall save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

We are HIS people.

**God bless and keep you,
Cathy Dalton**

Foot Washing

Jesus said, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet." (John 13:14)

Sunday evening before Christmas, Brother Perry ministered to us concerning feet washing after which we entered into a very precious service. Brother washed brother's feet, son the father's, the father the son's feet. There were testimonies given and expressions of appreciation of other members of the body of Christ. The men's part of the service ended by the pastor asking to, and washing the elders' feet and they in return washing his, while the other men of the

church gathered around and agreed with us in prayer for the church and its outreach which ended in a prayer of praise and worship.

We could hear the ladies singing and praising God and they too reported a precious time in the Lord.

I have been in other feet washing services, but never have I felt the visitation of the Holy Spirit so evident as on this night. In summary, one young man, who is also young in the Lord, said, "Had I known we were having a feet washing service I would not have come—I'm sure glad I didn't know because I would have really missed a blessing."

If your church does not practice feet washings, I highly suggest you try it. It is very hard to wash someones feet if you have ought against them. It is a good way to get differences settled or to show appreciation.

If Jesus could do it shouldn't we be able to?

— John Crouch

CHRISTMAS EVE . . .

Christmas Eve in the ozarks was a time we shall never forget. We planned a quiet service at the Old Swan school. We didn't expect too many people. Christmas Eve is a time to stay at home.

Laughing and singing carols, we made the 4 mile trip around the curves over the hills to the old school. Around a bend and there it was! In the blackness of a Missouri night there was light shinning from the windows of the old school, smoke pouring out of the chimney, and joy seemed to be seeping out of every crack.

They came those people we love . . . those that love Jesus and wanted to give Him, His day . . . give Him the special place of reverance.

The school was packed ! The wood burning stove was filled to the top. Our toes froze and our faces burned.

A table was overflowing with treats and desserts.

A freshly cut and decorated cedar tree graced one corned ot the drafty old building. Pop corn hung in ropes around the tree. I am sure it was the prettiest tree in the county.

We sang praises to His name. We heard the Scripture account of His birth. Some testified of God's goodness in their lives. Most of us just sat there, caught in the beauty of the moment. Enjoying the presence of Christ.

Thanks Lord for special moments—times we can draw apart from the world and worship you in spirit & in truth.

Thanks Lord for children who laugh, adults who pray and the peace that we feel in these hills!

Janice Perry

WATCH NIGHT SERVICE

Praise the Lord and don't pass up the opportunity to live every day to it's fullest for Him. He lived His life to the fullest for us.

The Lord really blessed in our watch night service. I, for one, felt His beautiful presence. Brother Earl Blansit and Brother Dwight Wilson brought wonderful messages. There's nothing better on New Years Eve then to start out serving God, then continuing and even growing stronger as the year goes on.

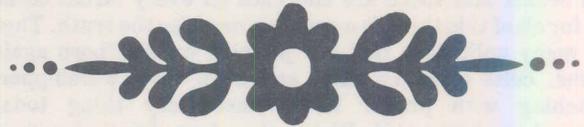
Special songs were brought by Rhonda Reese, Bruce Perry, Helen Soutee, and Melba Blansit. It's a blessing to praise the Lord in song.

A precious part of the service was the dedication of Dawnya Lee, daughter of Dwight and Carla Wilson. It's always a special time when a child is dedicated. Jesus said,

"Suffer little children, and forbid them not to come unto me, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

We, here at Taneyville, wish you all a great coming year and may our Heavenly Father richly bless and keep you.

—Helen Soutee
Apostolic Faith Church
Taneyville



WHAT IS FAITH?

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for,
the evidence of things not seen"
This verse is easy to say
But what does it really mean?

Faith is standing on ground
That is not actually there,
Faith is reaching out for someone
Who doesn't even care.

Faith is facing mountains
That are standing in your way,
Faith is walking through the night
When you cannot see the day.

Faith is planting seeds of love
That never seem to grow,
Faith is turning to a friend
When you don't know where to go.

Faith is stepping out of your boat
When waves are raging high,
Faith is having a smile on your face
When you really want to cry.

Faith is looking at the clouds
And knowing there is a sun,
Faith is saying, "It's been worth it."
When your day is done.

Faith is praising Jesus
For the things He has not yet done,
Faith is trusting in the Lord
For promises yet to come.

So never forget to look
For the things you cannot see,
Because faith has worked for others
And will work for you and me.

—Vanessa Oakes
Joplin, Mo.

WATCHMAN, WHAT OF THE NIGHT?

Isaiah 21:11, "The burden of Dumah. He calleth to me out of Seir, Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night?" There is much said in the word of God about the nighttime, especially about spiritual darkness. I believe that we are living in the greatest time of spiritual darkness that the world has ever seen.

It seems that there are churches on every street corner but for all of this there is a growing need for the truth. There are many politicians that are jumping on the "born again" theme, cults of every kind, and even devil worshippers. Watching with prayer is the necessary thing today. Remember, Jesus said, Watch therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come." Matthew 24:42. As long as I can remember since I have been a Christian, we have preached and taught of the very time that we see upon the world today. Jesus foretold of all these things in a number of places in the scriptures. We see a different thing happening now. Russia, the old sleeping bear is surely beginning to move. What we see today actually superseedes all other wars. We have recently heard that Greece has become the tenth nation to join the common market nations. The 38th and 39th chapters of Ezekiel gives us much information on this subject.

What of the night? said He in John 9:4, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." Paul said, "And that knowing the time, that it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand; let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light." Romans 13:11-12. Proverbs 14:12 tells us, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." We are living in a very wicked time, when it seems like everyone's ways are right in their own eyes. In Proverbs 14:34 God said, "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." I seriously wonder if our nation can classify itself as a Christian nation? I realize that we are living in the greatest nation in the world, but with so much ungodliness, again I say, can we call ourselves a Christian nation, as God sets the standards? Psalms 33:12 says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he hath chosen for His inheritance. Psalms 9:17 says, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God. Matthew 9:37-38 reads, "Then saith He unto His disciples, The harvest is truly plentiful, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." Jeremiah 8:20 says, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and We are not saved." How we need to pray that God will send in the unsaved to hear this glorious gospel.

Jesus also said that this gospel must first be published or go into every nation, then shall the end come. It is a very hard thing to talk to sinners today. There is so much shame and pretense in religion, but there are the true Christian people who are still fighting the good fight of faith. We are admonished in I Timothy 6:12 to, "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." Paul said in II Timothy 4:7, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith, Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that

day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." We should also remember that we are living in the great falling away. II Thessalonians 2:3 reads, "Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;" This falling away has been underway for quite some time. Where are our old-fashioned prayer meetings? Why is it that you can announce a prayer meeting and have just the faithful few show? While, on the other hand, you can announce a supper or some form of entertainment and have a house full? Friends, we need to return to the old paths that lead to an altar of prayer.

—Rev. Ted Jackson
Galena, Ks.

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MOVING?

'A quarter a time' is what the Post Office charges us whenever a copy of the Report is returned with a reader's new address. If you are moving, won't you tell us at once, allowing at least 4 weeks for the change? Send the mailing label from the back page so we will know your old address

The preacher's job is to fill the pulpit.

The layman's job to fill the pew.

Both have a responsibility.

How To Help Your Pastor

Don't call his home unless you have a good reason. If you do don't hesitate to call. He wants to serve you. But calls to inquire what time a meeting starts or what somebody's address is, are often needless. If the same information can be obtained from the church office or another church member, try jingling their phone for awhile. Answering the phone a Zillion times a day can be hard on the minister's wife, too. If she had wanted to be a switchboard operator she would have married another man.

Give him adequate time off each year, and don't make him feel guilty for taking a vacation. Remember how much getting away from it all helps you keep your head above water. Not to mention the new enthusiasm for the job at hand that comes when you've gotten away for awhile. Two weeks vacation per year should be the very minimum. Three weeks or a month is even better. Send him off with your blessings. If he feels guilty for leaving, he might just as well stay home for all the good that vacation will do him.

Don't ask the pastor to do things that are your responsibility. Mrs. Andrews calls up and says, "Pastor, my neighbor is not a Christian. Would you go and call on her?" With a little probing he discovers that Mrs. Andrews has never once talked to her neighbor about spiritual matters, and obviously she feels a little guilty about this. So instead of doing the job herself she tries to push it off on the pastor.

But that's not his job. He is called to train Mrs. Andrew—and every other member of his congregation—so she will be equipped to witness to her neighbors. After that, if a call from the pastor would really be helpful he'll be glad to go. But not until.

Allow him the privilege of saying no. It's Friday night. The older adult class is having a fellowship dinner. The church softball league is playing its final game of the season. The building committee is meeting to discuss repaving the north end of the parking lot. "Pastor, will you come? Speak at the dinner . . . cheer the softball team . . . help decide which asphalt company to contact. No? But, Pastor, aren't you interested? Don't you care?"

Obviously he can't be everywhere at once. Besides, Friday night just might be the only night he has free this week to take his family on the outing he's been promising them for the past several months.

And remember this. Most people attend church services, socials and committee meetings by choice. The pastor is expected to want to attend everything. Let him—do or not do—something once in awhile because he enjoys it or wants to attend, and not always because it is his duty.

Respect his day off. Whether it is Saturday, Monday, or some other day, he needs that day off. Sunday, for the minister or any other church staff worker, is not a day of rest. It is probably the hardest day they work all week in terms of the strain involved in preaching, teaching, conducting choirs, playing the organ, of being constantly before the public. The following day the "minister's letdown" sets in!

If an emergency arises on your minister's day off, don't hesitate to contact him. He would be sorry if you didn't. But

it's those needless little unimportant phone calls (the things that could wait until tomorrow), stops by the house just to visit, or meetings that could be scheduled another time that make his day anything but a day of rest. Most people get two days off per week. See to it that your minister gets at least one.

Let him just be a Christian. He loves people and is called to serve all people, not just the good ones. Don't expect him to take sides or to favor one group over another. Avoid jumping to conclusions about some of his actions. Often there are specific reasons behind those actions that you know nothing about. His concern must be for the good of the whole church and of individuals in particular.

Lay people can minister to their pastor. One pastor tells of a man in his church who ministered to him in a unique way. Occasionally he would call up and say, "Pastor, how about going out to lunch with me?" Then as they talked together over lunch he would say, "Is there anything on your heart you'd like to share with someone, Pastor?" And he—the layman—would prepare to listen. Once they even went away for a couple of days and just rested and prayed together.

This same pastor reports that sometimes that same layman, or another, would say, "Pastor, I think you should know how the people feel about things." And he appreciated his people leveling with him too.

In another church for many years the minister had a special group of three men with whom he could sit down at any time and discuss anything that was on his heart, whether it was a suggestion for improvement or a complaint, this minister could talk to these men heart to heart and in confidence. Such rapport with his people is of inestimable value to a minister—and to the congregation as well.

Remember, the pastor has no pastor. But there are times when he, like you, needs to just talk to someone. If the lines of communication are open a lay person can be a tremendous help to his minister in this way.

Don't fail to uphold him in prayer. Effective praying for your minister is much more than, "Lord, bless the pastor." It means anticipating his special needs, asking God to enlighten his mind and renew his spirit as he prepares his sermons, then praying for the spirit's power as he stands to preach. And as he counsels people in their problems, remember that he needs the wisdom and discernment God will give in answer to your prayers.

A minister is just as human as you are—and his personal devotional life isn't maintained any easier. Pray for his day-by-day spiritual refreshing. And when you recognize particular pressures which he is facing, pray about them. Many a struggling, mediocre pastor has been lifted to a higher plane of service—and his church has been blessed—simply because his people prayed.

Wherever a church is what it should be spiritually, you'll see the pastor and people pulling together. You expect a great deal from your minister. Are you helping him? After all, the ministry is a two-way street.

[Taken from the Good News Broadcaster]

Answers to quiz on page 7 — Mark Luke Kings Acts
Revelation James Ruth Numbers Amos Esther
Judges Titus Lamentations Hebrews Job

Apostolic Faith Bible College

ANNOUNCES

Convocation — Commencement

May 12 — 13 — 14

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Tues. May 12 — 9:00 a.m. Prayer

10:00 a.m. Bible Lesson

2:00 p.m. Afternoon Service

8:00 p.m. Evening Service

Wed. May 13 — 9:00 a.m. Prayer

10:00 a.m. Bible Lesson

2:00 p.m. Afternoon Service

8:00 p.m. Choir & Homecoming

Thurs. May 14 — 9:00 a.m. Prayer

10:00 a.m. Dedication & Ordination

1:00 p.m. General Business Meeting

8:00 p.m. — Commencement

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Camp Meeting 1981

July 22-30

**Baxter Springs,
Kansas**

Chairman—Neil Ragan

510 S. Cox

Joplin, Mo. 64801

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