

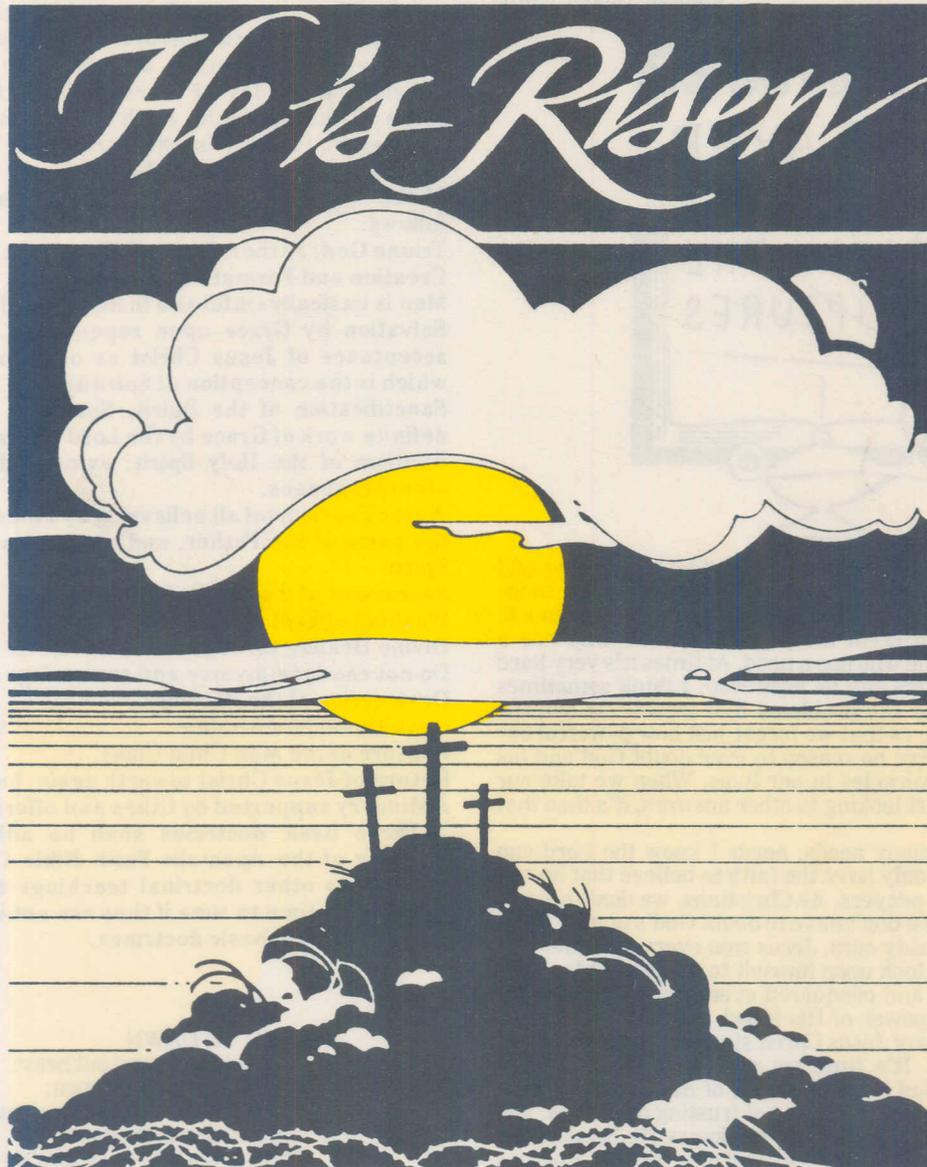
The

Apostolic Faith

Report

Volume 33 No. 3

March 1986



Fear not ye; for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

He is not here: for He is risen, as He said.

To be used by God

— this is our desire. We, as Evangelism students at AFBC are learning more and more every day about being used of God. This is our highest calling as Christians and we are all striving to do God's will in our lives. We have all had many privileges to be used of God this semester. And one of these has been to compile this March, 1986 issue of the Apostolic Faith Report. Working on the staff were Rena Gibbs, Donna Carlstrom, Valerie Oakes, Karen Mathis, Kayla Doll, Vanessa Oakes, Ron Noble, and Russell Ball. We pray that what effort we have put forth will in some way reach out and minister to all who read this publication. Thank You for your prayers and support of us at AFBC. We pray that God will richly bless your lives as you endeavour to work for him.

IN HIS LOVE,
Vanessa Oakes, editor

The **POWER** of PRAYER



Prayer changes things. This is a statement I've always told friends who were in need of a spiritual victory in their lives. It seems so simple... Prayer changes things — but it seems to become a totally different story when it's me who has a problem, when it's me who has a need. At times it's very hard to believe that prayers can be answered. I think sometimes we are so blinded by the problems that trouble us and the questions that evade us that we forget just how powerful our God really is. We have no reason to ever doubt God and his ability to perform miracles in our lives. When we take our eyes off God and start looking to other answers, it's then that we begin to fall.

Lately, I've had many needs, needs I know the Lord can provide for, if I will only have the faith to believe that he can and will answer my prayers. As Christians, we don't have to live defeated lives, we don't have to doubt God's power. For a life of victory is already ours. Jesus won every spiritual battle we face when he took upon himself to die in our place. He defeated every sin, and conquered every evil force. We are overcomers by the power of His blood. And it's time we as believers in the cross of Jesus Christ started claiming victory that belongs to us. It's time we quit doubting and start believing that our God is really a God of miracles. It's time that we begin trusting Him instead of trusting ourselves. The scripture states that in all of our weakness He becomes so strong. He will be strong in us if we will only let him. Romans 8:38. "Nay, in all these things, we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Claim the victory in your life today! We've got the power and it's all in the name of Jesus. Praise the Lord!

Vanessa Oakes, editor

Bylaws of the Apostolic Faith Bible College, Inc.

ARTICLE VII Doctrine

It is recognized that the true church of Jesus Christ consists of all believers in the saving grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who have accepted him as their personal Saviour. It is recognized and agreed that no organization or man has been granted authority by the Lord to exclude from or accept anyone into the Kingdom of Heaven, as this is done by Jesus Christ only. It is further recognized and agreed that we as Christians are to love all members of the Body of Christ (Christians), and this love and fellowship derives from the unity instilled by the Holy Spirit. Although differences in doctrinal beliefs and interpretations should not influence our love for one another, adherence to similar doctrinal beliefs and modes of worship have bonded together those of the Apostolic Faith Movement as founded by Charles F. Parham in the early 1900's. The scripture teaches us to adhere to the truth and proper doctrine. These common doctrinal beliefs are essentially as follows:

- Triune God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Creation and Formation
- Man is basically sinful and in need of Salvation
- Salvation by Grace upon repentance toward God and acceptance of Jesus Christ as one's personal Saviour, which is the conception of Spiritual Life.
- Sanctification of the Spirit, Soul and Body. A second definite work of Grace by the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Baptism of the Holy Spirit; evidenced by speaking in other languages.
- Water Baptism (of all believers) by immersion in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.
- Washing of Feet.
- Divine Healing through Jesus Christ for all believers.
- Do not condone divorce and remarriage. Matthew 19:8-9
- Destruction of the Wicked.
- Conditional Immortality.
- Rapture of the Man Child Class.
- Return of Jesus Christ to earth again; bodily and visibly.
- A Ministry supported by tithes and offerings.

These basic doctrines shall be adhered to in the teaching of the Apostolic Faith Bible College, which in addition to other doctrinal teachings approved by the Board from time to time if they are not inconsistent with the above listed basic doctrines.

EASTER DAWN

In quiet the expectant heart
Awaits the Easter dawn;
Christ has overcome the grave,
Sin and death are gone;
Dark gives way to coming day,
Hope transcends the gloom;
Christ has risen to the skies
And left an empty tomb.

Jane Rudd Westbrook

Isaiah 52:14

"As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men:"

This scripture came to me in the night. The Prophet here, had a perfect vision of my sinless and guiltless Lord; who suffered such a terrible suffering which was so cruel that it caused as many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred by this cruel suffering, it was more than any man. No man has ever suffered like my precious Jesus. He suffered so patiently, without complaint and did it willingly for my sins and the sins of the world. What a great price he paid for atonement of sins-his own "Life Blood" on the cross! I am not my own, I was bought with a great price on Calvary's Hill that day.

Let us go to Luke to share our thoughts with you on this message of Jesus' visage and form being marred more than any man. Luke 22:15 "And he, Jesus, said unto them, with desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer." Jesus was speaking here of the Passover that the Lord gave Moses before he lead the children of Israel out of Egypt's bondage. I think one of the greatest reasons that Jesus desired to eat this Passover with the 12 Apostles was because it was the last time he would have the 12 Apostles around him, to share with him His heart's feelings and His love.

Exodus 12:5-14...

"Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:

And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread: and with bitter herbs they shall eat it.

Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof.

And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.

And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall it in haste: it is the Lord's passover.

And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations; yeshall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

All generations keep this passover supper as an ordinance 'till Jesus eat it with the 12 chosen Apostles. That is one reason why Jesus desired to eat this Passover with the 12 Apostles. Before he suffered to keep this ordinance. Jesus was the perfect lamb of God that was sacrificed for the sins of the whole world and became the chief shepard for us all. Praise His Dear Name.

Hebrews 12:3...

"For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds."

The Apostle Paul warns that if we fail to consider the terrible suffering that Jesus endured for us, that we would become weary and faint in our mind. In other words, as Christians, the price would be too great to pay and give up the good fight of faith-lay down the cross and lose out with God. So let us consider him that endured so much suffering, all for our salvation.

Go with me now to Gethsamene where Jesus Crucified His will, to do the will of the Father. Matt. 26:39...

"...O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."

Now look in Luke 22:44...

"And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."

Let us ask ourselves the question, have we prayed this earnestly? This is a part of what caused him to be marred more than any other man. But it paid off, the surrender of Jesus' will made it possible for you and me to follow in His steps. Matt. 27:25,25...

"Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and our children.

Then released he Barrabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

Jesus was scourged with 39 stripes. The whip used, had metal tied into the ends of the lash. This tore the flesh and sometimes left the bone showing. Many didn't survive this kind of punishment because it was so cruel. Behold my Jesus, he suffered all this for me.

Matt. 27:27-31...

"Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the common hall, and gathered unto him the whole band of soldiers.

And they stripped him, and put on him a scarlet robe.

And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon his head and a reed in his right hand: and they bowed the knee before him, and mocked him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews!

And they spit upon him, and took the reed, and smote him on the head.

And after that they had mocked him, they took the robe off from him, and put his own raiment on him and led him away to crucify him."

Can you behold my Jesus as they mocked him and spit on him and said, "All Hail the King of the Jews?" There he was, with the crown of thorns-oh how beloved me! My wonderful Jesus!

Matt. 27:45-46...

"Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, la ma sa bach tha ni? That is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? God had to turn his back on such a sacred scene and forsake my Jesus for my Salvation. There was darkness on the whole land for 3 hours while my Jesus was dying on the cross. It wasn't the nails that held Jesus to the cross, it was divine love.

Matt. 27:50-51...

"Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;"

When Jesus said on the cross, in His dying breath, "it is finished," those were the most beautiful words ever uttered. When the veil of the temple was rent in twain from top to bottom, it brought us from law to grace. This means so much to me because Jesus entered into heaven to become our Great High Priest and Intercessor. Praise His Wonderful name for giving all people around the world access to go directly to the throne, through prayer. Jesus made all this possible when he said, "it is finished".

Hebrews 12:2...

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

I worship my Wonderful Lord of Glory. Thank God for what all this means to me. Please pray for me that I may remain faithful 'till he says "it is enough".

Some of God's richest nuggets of truth lie deep beneath the surface.

James Hosler
No. 3 Greentree Blvd.
Victorville, Calif. 92392

The Avocation of Positivity

There are two definitions of being positive. For one, it's being certain, dogmatic, or assertive of something you know will happen. Secondly, positiveness is a distinct state of mind that is only established by a pre-acknowledged motive within. Whether a believer or non-believer in Christ we can obtain both of these listings. Yet with the non-believer, there's a missing piece in the puzzle of life, and of course it's the most valuable one of all.

A boy comes home from school one day in a very down mood. His father asks, "What's wrong son?" His father answers, "I failed my test dad." Stuningly the father replies, "Think positive, son." The boy says, "Okay dad! I positively failed my test." This is an example of assertive positivity. In this case, it wasn't used very intelligently, but it can be. In the aspect of faith. If we could only be as dogmatic faith as we are of carnality. Faith is positivity in its truest sense because there is no such thing as negative faith. Just think of that mustard seed and compare it to your day to day occurrences. Are you of genuine piety to the gospel of Christ like you should be? If not, this overcoming positivity is your weakness. Strengthen yourself in this area by special prayer, analyzing your actions, and walking circumspectly.

Now for our second definition of being positive. First we must realize the combination of the two definitions. In one sentence it's as follows: they are the surety that procures the thinking which we see as a plus on plus daily attitude. Second we need to see the contrast. "Certain Positivity" is a mind-controlled acceptance and "Inner Positivity" is an abundant heart reaction which for the Christian includes an essential structure of Christ and Consistency. In the view that we can do all things through Christ which strengthens us and gives us overcoming grace. And, in consistency with Christ's love working in us, we can and must relate it daily to others. Why not! Freely ye have received, freely give. In dealing with our second term definition of positivity we see two main characters which are: Christ (as above, is the most valuable piece of the puzzle) and Magnitude (taking a sole piece of God-given abundance and with increase showing forth his glory and power). We must put Christ as the foremost in our lives because he bought us with a price. A price far greater than we can willingly deserve or ever hope for, but he did still die. He died the worst death man has ever known and "...his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men." (Isa. 52:14) We can't even imagine it! Christ did not have an Achilles heel, an unguarded point in his armor, and we should not either! Compare yourself to Jesus in every situation when you striving to be positive,...as He is. God has designed us to be in the world, yet not the world to be in us. Separate yourselves! We know that our trials shall come to make us strong. We also know as in the example of Daniel in the Lions Den that the Lord sometimes takes us into troubled waters not to drown us, but to more fully cleanse us. There is specific main point you must grasp to understand and secure this definition in your life. It is: Find contentment today in the knowledge that God knows what is best for you,...always.

The entire combining of positivity in both definitions must be your avocation. This avocation can only be virtuous if Jesus Christ is undoubtedly your power source. To look at an avocation, it is hobby; or ones vocation to sustain their occupation especially with enjoyment or pleasure, and, for the enjoyment of it. What a powerful relation to being an assertive and plus on plus person! Think, what other way can we possibly do our avocation for Christ when he is truly within our hearts. Praise the Lord! Set your affections upon higher things such as his precious riches of eternal weight in glory.

In conclusion to this Christ-like stability we can obtain, keep in mind where you are. For example, take a car battery.

To make the car run it must have a negative and a positive hook-up. Jesus Christ is definitely the positive and the negative is the world around you. Let's stay on the positive hook-up and not get all won over by the negative. Remember, as a car needs both cables hooked up, so should we concentrate on the positive still having the realization of the illusion of the world we live in. Amen!

AFBC Student
Todd Allen



WHAT THE LORD WILL DO

I was holding a meeting some years ago in a city auditorium across the alley from the city jail. The summer nights were hot, and the windows of our building were opened wide. The prisoners could easily hear our singing, and I learned they could hear my voice if my face was turned toward those open windows. After that I faced one side of my congregation only and spoke so loudly that I knew the men behind bars could hear me.

At the close of one of the services a policeman came to the platform and laughingly placed me under temporary arrest. He said I was needed in the prison.

A little while later I was sitting beside one of the most dejected pieces of humanity I had ever seen in my life. It was nothing new for him to be a prisoner. Time and time again he has been placed in a prison cell.

He sat gazing pensively at the concrete floor. After looking me over he settled back into a moody, dejected silence.

At first I could not understand his refusal to speak since he had sent for me. But he was so bewildered and so torn asunder by conflicting emotions that he was afraid to try to express himself. So I opened before him the pages of the Book of a Father's love and told him the story of Calvary.

He turned on me almost bitterly and said "What has Christ ever done for me?"

He asked the question, so I gave him my answer. I told him that the Lord had given him every good thing which had come to him in life. Men could manufacture clothing, but only God could grow the wool on the back of the sheep. Human hands could fashion the shoes upon the last, but only a miracle-working God could put the cattle on a thousand hills. Man could take his bucket to the well, but only God could put the water there.

I told him of many things the Lord had done, and when I turned to him and said: "But I want to talk to you, my friend, about what the Lord will do."

As I spoke, his eyes opened wide in wonder and amazement. I did not have time to tell half the story.

Once in a while he interrupted me, and well do I remember the question which fell from his lips "Is it really for me, preacher? Is that really true?"

I wish you could see that man now-saved and filled with the Spirit, transformed in life and in appearance. He can sing

From sinking sand He lifted me;
With tender hand He lifted me;
From shades of night
To planes of light,
O praise His name,
He lifted me!

I met him not so long ago, and we talked over the conversation we had that night in his prison cell.

I asked him "Has the Lord been all to you that I promised He could be?"

"Yes," he replied, "all that, and a thousand times more."

Charles S. Prine in Herald of Hope

THE THREE REASONS

"Mommy, am I going to have a new dress for Easter?" asked six-year-old Becky.

"You already have your pretty blue dress," answered Mother. "Easter is the day we remember Christ's resurrection. We should have our minds upon Him, and new clothes might be a distraction."

"What's a dis-dis-traction?" asked Molly, who was four.

"That's anything that takes our attention away from what we should be doing," was the answer. "When we worship God, we should think about him."

"But Mommy," chimed in eight-year-old Karen, "everybody has new clothes for Easter. All the girls are getting new dresses and shoes, and Janey is getting a white hat, too." Karen sighed enviously.

"Who wants hats?" declared Becky with a sniff. "But I do want a yellow dress."

Mother smiled, but she looked just a bit worried. "Well, I'll talk it over with Daddy," she said. "Money is scarce right now, and he may not be able to afford buying three new outfits."

Daddy decided that the budget could stand three dresses and three pairs of shoes. He was very proud of his girls when they were all dressed up on Easter morning. They all had chosen yellow dresses. Daddy called them his three but-tercups.

They were just leaving for church when Karen noticed her mother, wearing the same brown dress she had worn every Sunday for months. "Oh, Mommy! You aren't wearing that old thing again!" she exclaimed. "Why didn't you get a new dress, too?"

"I can think of three reasons why your mother didn't buy a new dress," Daddy said quickly, before Mother could reply, "Karen, Becky, and Molly."

"I know what you mean. Mommy couldn't have a new dress because you had to buy dresses for us." There were tears in Karen's eyes as she said, "I'm so sorry, Mommy."

"Don't feel bad," said her mother. "I wanted you girls to have them. When you are happy, that makes me feel happy too."

"That's because you love us, isn't it, Mommy?" said Becky.

"But Jesus loves us the most, doesn't He?" chimed in Molly. "You said that He died for us because He loved us."

"Yes, dear, Jesus loves us the most," Mother replied, giving her a little hug. "Let's go now. We don't want to be late for church."

Molly returned the hug. "I think you are the prettiest Mommy in the world," she declared.

Elzena A. Scott



YOUR HOME IS BUGGED

Yes, your home is bugged! In every home there are two microphones per child - one in each ear. These highly sensitive instruments pick up the table prayers, hymns sung, ordinary conversation, incidental remarks, types of language, a variety of words, and intensities of sound.

These all absorbing microphones transmit all that they hear to the highly impressionable minds. These sounds then become the vocabulary of the child and the basis for his actions and reactions.



APOSTOLIC FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE



NEWS

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Greetings to all of you and as we write this article we look outside to one of God's beautiful handiworks. Our ground is covered with beautiful snow. The students are enjoying this beauty, especially those from area's that rarely see snow. Of course one must be careful lest he catch a snowball up-side the head.

God is good in every way to His people. Here at the school we are aware of His daily presence both in class and at work or play. He has supplied so many wonderful needs. Our hearts overflow with His love.

Our thanks to those who pray daily for us. By the time you receive this report we will be in revival here at the school. Our Evangelist will be Brother Amos Harris of Bayard, Nebraska. The dates to begin is March 12. We are expecting a great spiritual awakening.

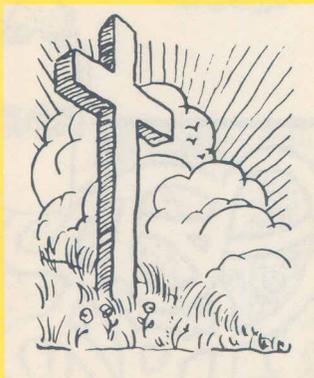
We say thanks to all who have given meat supplies to the school. As we started the second semester all our deep freezes were full of meat. Praise the Lord! We all say God bless you.

With winter comes heavy fuel and electric bills so we ask you to be aware and do your part in keeping all the school bills paid up to date. Thank you! Also come April 1 our annual insurance payment will be due. The amount needed is \$5,000.

We have been blessed with a great staff of people to work in our school. These people all do a great job. I just wish you could watch and listen as they each carry their load. Please be faithful to support them.

Time is marching on and soon our closing of this term will be upon us. Mark the dates of May 7 and 8 and plan to be here. We'll see you then.

God Bless You
Supt. Jack Cornell



THE APOSTOLIC FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE PRESENTS:

The Dramatization of "The Last Supper" on March 28, 7:00 p.m. and March 30, 7:00 p.m. at the Apostolic Faith Chapel in Baxter Springs, Kansas. Everyone is urged to attend and receive a blessing!

GIRLS DORM REPORT

The Lord has been doing many great things and blessing us tremendously throughout this semester. We are already half way through this spring semester and we are wondering where our time has gone so quickly. God has given us this time here to learn and grow in Him. He has been answering many of our prayers and we believe and have faith that He is going to do what we ask. If we will serve Him faithfully and put Him first above everything else, He will give us what we need. In Psalms 37:5 it tells us to "commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass" God is so wonderful to us and we can be victorious through Him. For we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. Romans 8:37.

Traci Synder, AFBC Student

BOYS DORM REPORT

II Timothy 2:15. Study to show thyself approved unto God, a work man that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

How many times have we all heard and quoted this verse? The number is unending, I'm sure. But have we really took this scripture to heart? Do we really study the Word of God to the best of our ability?

I've noticed this semester that each of the men in the dorm are studying more, not just the Word of God but for everyday class studies. The time is about to arrive when the spring term will be over and it will be OUR turn to go out into the harvest field and tell others about the Love of Jesus. Different doors are beginning to open for ministering and to go through that door we must be prepared spiritually, physically, and mentally. Please keep us in your prayers as we do like wise for you and don't forget to "Study to show thyself approved unto God."

Russell Ball

Advisory Board Meeting

May 7, 1986 9:00 A.M.

General Business Meeting

May 7, 1986 1:00 P.M.

Apostolic Faith Bible School

10th & Lincoln
Baxter Springs, KS

AFBC Valentine Banquet



The Mathis Trio

February the eighth was the date which the Valentine's Banquet took place. It, like one's in the past, was very successful with approximately 140, including pastors, youth sponsors, young people, and others gathering for a time of wonderful food, fellowship, and beautiful music. We appreciate the hard work that the cooks put into preparing the delicious meal, it was very good. The Mathis Trio of Hempstead, Texas provided the music part of the program. We appreciate their lives and dedication unto the Lord. The new royalty was announced and King and Queen were Kayla Doll and Steve Hackett.



AFBC Valentine Royalty — Steve Hackett & Kayla Doll



A BEHIND THE SCENES LOOK AT CHOIR TOUR (a student's point of view)

Soon it will be time for another choir tour, this time to the South.

Many people remark about how much they enjoy the choir, but do they really realize how much work and practice goes into it?

In this article, I will try to enlighten you on how it all comes together.

Janae Harris, our music instructor is the gear that gets the whole choir rolling, but her main and first concern is the Lord's will for the tour. She spends much time in prayer and seeking the Lord's will on what is sung. She picks out the songs and learns every part. The easy part is over. Now she has to teach the choir members the music. Sometimes when the musical sections are not quite learning the music like they should, Janae makes practice tapes on which she plays and sings every individual part, and then issues the tapes to the sections.

The choir continues to practice until finally the day comes when the risers are set up. It's time to put all music aside and start polishing the memorized songs. Janae decides who stands where on the risers based according to their vocal parts and height.

She puts the whole order of the service together in every detail. She has to decide how the choir enters and exits, and who walks with who. What colors are appropriate to wear, how loud the speakers are to be, who sings a solo, who plays an instrument, who hands out programs and who prints them, what song will be used for the invitation and many numerous other details.

But what about connections? Who makes them? Who has to make sure that everyone has a bed to sleep in, or decides what time we leave from one place to another destination? Whose responsibility is it if there aren't enough finances for the tour? It's Janae Harris'.

This doesn't even cover everything. I've left out details that probably only Janae and the Lord really know anything about.

I don't know how she does it, but I do know that she's not alone. Her Heavenly Father leads her every step of the way.

Think about his article the next time the Bible College choir comes to your church. Chances are, you'll enjoy the concert even more.

Karen Mathis

**Apostolic Faith
Bible College
Spring Choir Tour
Alabama, Mississippi, Texas
April 18 — May 2**

Sowing the Seed

Experience is indeed the best teacher. I had never really planted anything as I did when I helped a dear Christian man sow seed in his pasture. As I watched the seed fall from the rather simple working device, I realized how well the illustration of the sower related to the spreading of the Gospel. Mark 4:3-9, 14-20 relates the account of the parable of the sower. Throughout the Bible, many verses concerning sowing the seed, which is simply the Gospel, the Word of God. The sower is you. Sowing is to scatter or plant, to spread abroad, to implant.

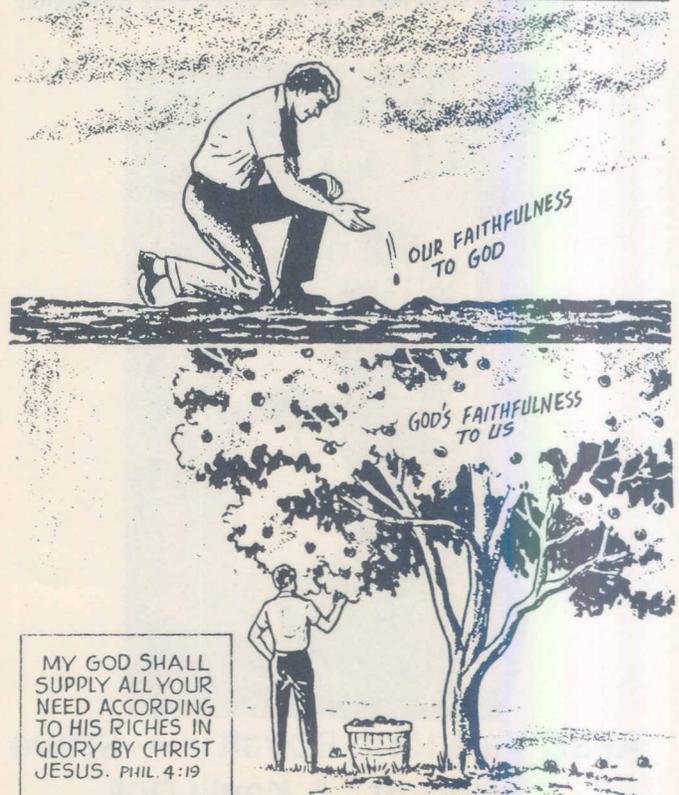
The particular seeder I was using was one that hung over the shoulder, an individual task. Work done for the Lord is a result of a self-consecrated heart. The intent of the heart must be to truly give praise to the Lord, not to bring praise to oneself. No one is to rely on another's salvation or their reputation. The psalmist wrote in Psa. 119:41, "Let thy mercies come also unto me, O Lord, even thy salvation, according to thy word." V. 104, "Through thy precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way." The psalmist realized that he alone had to account for his salvation and personal study, and this comes only by receiving the Word into one's heart. Only by the Word comes understanding, and to truly understand what God has set forth, personal study and meditation must be. Paul, in speaking to the Philippians, wrote in Phil. 2:12, "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." Paul exhorted the people to obey God always, and not just when he was there to see them. He didn't want them just to appear spiritual on the outside, but act like Christians because they really were. He knew each one of them would be recompensed for the intent of their heart someday.

Consider the bag that contains the seed. The size of the container may vary, but it doesn't matter. The importance lies in the fact that the vessel is to be kept full. As Christians are the vessels that contain the seed, the desire of the heart should be to always be searching the deeper things of God. It has been said that Christians need to read the Bible on their knees. Too many times, the Bible is opened without a person really having the spiritual attitude that there should be when reading the Holy Scriptures. The Scriptures are not to confirm man's theories and concepts, rather the Bible is to teach man, setting the truth before humanity. Psa. 119:18, "Open thou mine eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law." Unfortunately, people sometimes say, "I am too small and cannot offer much." The two words to remember are 'offer much.' When God has called you to do a job, He will supply everything that is needed. Instead of looking at what you think Christ hasn't given you, consider what He has given you, what He wants you to do, and do it with all thy might. Romans 12:11 states that Christians are to be "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord; 'We are to be vessels of honor, containers of the seed. One may think, 'I don't have enough seed.' Regrettably because of unconcern, choice, and some other reason, people don't study enough to become established in the Word of God. This does not have to be. He knows the situation, leaving His own short of nothing to accomplish that which He has purposed. When you seem not to be able to 'offer much,' God has all under control, and He will use willing people no matter where or how seemingly insignificant. He knows where at and at what time His seed is to spread. Isa. 28:25 speaks of the plowman, after he has prepared the ground, putting the appointed seed in the proper place. "When he hath made plain the face thereof, doth he not cast abroad the fitches, and scatter the cummin, and cast in the principal wheat and the appointed barley and the rye in their place?" Is not this just as God does? He has given the

commission for every true Christian the ministry or reconciliation by His words and their actions. Actions indeed speak louder than words; but the basis for a Christian walk is having spiritual wisdom from the Lord. The writer expressed his desire. Psa. 119:33 "Teach me, O Lord, the ways of thy statutes; and I will keep it unto the end." Instead of being taught by the precepts of man, rely on the true seed, the Eternal Word for instruction. Whether your place in life seems small or otherwise, His Word will not return void, and 'shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.' Sending the life-giving message is a call to action. Of course, the Lord is the Omnipotent Being that works the miracle of salvation, but He wants His labourers to work in the field. He does the work, we are the tools that He uses, just as the handle on the seeder.

To spread the seed, the handle has to be turned continuously. This does not mean that His instruments of labour are to just speak of Christ, but one's life has to be a consistent, stable, Christ-like example. "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk, even as he walked." I Jn. 2:6. The entire life of Christ showed he did no sin. If then Christ committed no sin, and we are to follow his example, we are also not to have sin reign in our lives. We ought to walk, even as He walked, is again action. Walking after Christ, not standing still but progressing 'leaving the principles of the doctrines of Christ, let us go on unto perfection.' Heb. 6:1. A person will never get anywhere if just standing. "And let us not be weary; in well doing for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Gal. 6:9. When one grows weary, His work is not as effective as should be. If Christ had quit and refused to do the work that he was here for, where would we be now? Jesus has done much for us, and yet sometimes we begin thinking that perhaps we ourselves are the ones who have done the most work. "I traveled down a lonely road and no one seemed to care, the burden on my weary back had bowed me to despair. I oft complained to Jesus how folks were treating me, and then I heard him say so tenderly, "My

SOWING AND REAPING

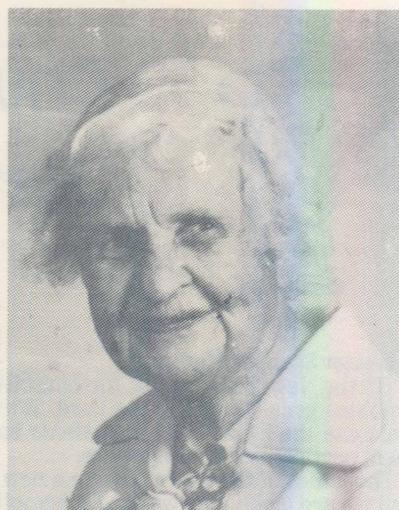


feet were also weary upon the Calvary road; the cross became so heavy I fell beneath the load, be faithful weary pilgrim, the morning I can see, just lift your cross and follow me." O, how precious was the price that was paid!

Continuously turning the handle was a requirement, yet equally important was the speed in which it was turned. The brisker the handle was turned, the further the seed was scattered. Christ stated the reason for continuance without ceasing. He said, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work." Jn. 9:4. The shadows of death are the darkest without Christ, for there will be not Eternal light on the resurrection day. Life is too short to enjoy the pleasures of the world for a little while. "There's a message to be preached, there are souls to be reached; there are hungry to be fed, little children to be led."

When each individual meets with physical death, their deeds on earth, whether good or bad, will stand before God, for he will render to every man accordingly Death to the true people of God, is not something to be feared. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. Psa. 116:15. To the person who has not received Jesus Christ as Savior, death is an event that is looked on with great fear. "Terrors take hold on him as waters, a tempest stealeth him away in the night. The east wind carrieth him away, and he departeth; and as a storm hurleth him out of his place." The night is coming when nothing can be done, for 'there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, in the grave, whether thou goest.'" Ecc. 9:10. His own must have the Lord as the first priority in their life and must truly be serious when saying, 'I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat what seems each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet. I love to tell the story; for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own Holy Word."

When speaking of the plan of salvation and the fullness of the Gospel, this includes also much more than just forgiveness of sins. One of the most important aspects to be stressed is that although we have been forgiven of past sins, God has promised His strength to keep His children from falling. What can death and sin possibly offer a person? Eze. 3:17-21 explains that it is the direct duty to warn people of the sayings of God. The Lord states that Christians, as watchmen, are to warn the wicked of their condition. If they die without anyone warning them, the Bible states, "His blood will I require at thine hand." Never pass an opportunity to share Christ. When the wicked hear the warning, yet rebels, "he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul." Also with the righteous that backslide. When he turns away and commits willful iniquity, yet if not warned of the coming consequences, again his blood is on the hands of the person that God had intended to use in witnessing to that person. V. 21 "Nevertheless, if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doeth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou has delivered thy soul." If the Lord states the righteous sin not, that means Almighty had made provision for His people to stay free from bondage! Gal. 5:1 "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage." God would not have inspired the writer to write that we don't have to serve sin anymore if it were not true. How, in this corrupt world, does one keep the faith? The answer is the basis for having victorious life-reading and meditating on the Gospel Seed. Rom. 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word fo God." Such should be the yearning for Spiritual Wisdom! Christ carries us through the rough fields, ready to lend support during the many storms and 'through the heat of the day, we will join in the fight, until He takes us away, until our faith becomes sight." As ministers of the Gospel Seed, we are but the seeder, containers of the Word, in the hands of the Master Sower.



Sis. Greever, 97, Spearman, Texas, continues to serve God faithfully as He leads. She has written a series of articles for her hometown newspaper. We thank her for sharing these articles with us.

TO GOD "A NOTE OF THANKS"

God, you have definately told us we must be born again and how thankful I am. You also tell us no one can come to you except you draw us, so if we are not convicted or have a hungering and thirsting for righteousness, we will remain in sin. He that cometh to God must believe that he is and is a rewarder of them who diligently seek him. Jesus said, Ask and ye shall receive, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you. Evey one that asketh receiveth and he that seeketh findeth and to him that knocketh it shall be opened, so if we are sincere and earnest about our need God is faithful who has promised. There is never a failure on his part. To ask from God is to pray, and the following only a few scriptures concerning prayer. Lord teach us to pray. Men ought always to pray. Pray without ceasing. And all things whatsoever ye ask in prayer believing ye shall receive. When we come to God we must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them who diligently seek him and so it is in anything we may need, and when we ask begin to seek or in other words pray with all of our heart and keep knocking until the spirit witnesses to us the work is done. In other words, "Pray Through." The Lord is no respecter of persons and is rich toward all who call, and the word says Call and I will answer thee and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not. Another scripture men ought always to pray and not faint (not give up) keep praying for God is faithful who hath promised.

I am so glad Father you have warned us about a form of godliness and denying the power thereof. You said there was a time when you winked at the ignorance of man but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent. The law and prophets were until John (the forerunner of Jesus) since then the kingdom of God is preached and every man (person) presseseth his way into it, so by prayer, supplication and the giving of thanks we receive. Beyond doubt we will have the desire of our heart by sincere asking seeking and knocking. All things are ready and Gods table is spread with all things we creatures of dust may need. Jesus blood will make the vilest sinner clean. In the book of Psalms the 51st chapter and verse 10 David said, Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me. Jer. 6:16. Thus saith the Lord Stand ye in the ways and see and ask for the old paths wherein is the good way and walk therein and ye shall find rest for your souls. In Bibles printed in our day we find changes in the word that change the meaning so I hold to King James version. In Rev. 22:18:19 we are told the result if we add to or take from God's word.

Mrs. E. A. Greever



Church News

Baxter Springs, Kansas

As the New Year begins, the church in Baxter Springs anticipates great things in the Lord. It's always a pleasure to welcome the Bible College students back. We enjoy having them participate in our services.

The ladies of the church began a new Bible Study program and we are looking forward to accomplishing several projects throughout the year. Also a Wednesday night Bible Study began in early February. Brother Lyndel Arnall is bringing a study on the Miracles of Christ. These lessons are exciting to be a part of. God is still a miracle working God.

The Youth Group participated in a Young Kansans for Christ conference on February 22. Young people from the entire state of Kansas came together for a time of fun and worship.

We appreciate your prayers for our church and for the Bible College here in Baxter Springs. With prayer all things are possible.

Danny M. Robinson, Pastor Rae Mona Robinson, Reporter

GALENA, KANSAS

Psalm 61:1-3

"Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For thou hast been a shelter for me, and a strong tower from the enemy."

Well, Praise God from whom all blessings flow - God is still on the throne.

He is still working and blessing our people. We are now in a process of putting in a new ceiling in our auditorium. We also have more plans for beautifying our Lord's house. We are so glad our church family has a vision for souls and seeing our work go on. God blesses in each service.

February 5 after our Bible Study, a birthday get together was held in honor of Sis. Ruth Whiteley. May God bless her. She is a real blessing to our church. We are praying for a revival soon. Bro. and Sis. E. K. Cornell were here visiting with the Whiteleys and Cornells. We always have a big thanks for our Bible College. We are so glad for their help and we are very fortunate to have them so close.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the Tom Hopkins family and to the Hollie Jefferies family. May God bless these good families and keep them in his loving care and comfort them.

Please pray for our shut-ins, also some very sick ones - Bro. Wayne Collins, Sis. Gladys Fanchier, Birdie Noe, Mr. Jack Coberly, Sis. Grace Myers, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Hughey.

We welcome all our Christian families to come by and visit us.

Howard Whiteley, Pastor
May Rowland, Reporter

PAMPA, TEXAS

Greetings to you from Pampa Chapel! We are still going on and we were sad to have Hal and Jolene Davis and their three children transferred to Perryton, Texas. Phyllis Walser and her three children were transferred to Dumas, Texas with Wal-Mart Co. But God has been good to us too. We have some new families who have been coming and hopefully we will build up even more. Brother Austin has been preaching wonderfully since his heart attack in June of 1985. He has done so well and we thank God for answered prayer. We also want to thank those who came and ministered to us while Austin was unable to preach. We enjoyed each one and each gave us comfort and encouragement. Also the Bible College group who came was a great inspiration and we so enjoyed the fellowship and the dinner time together. Thanks to everyone who helped us in any way. Our new people have entered into our Sunday School Contest and we feel it will be a blessing to our church. Pray for us.

Austin Sutton, Pastor
Anabel Simmons, Reporter

MIDWAY, OKLAHOMA

We, the people of the Midway Church, just want to praise the Lord for His goodness, love, and mercy to each of us. Word can't praise Him enough.

Brother Gene Cornell visited our church on Sunday night, Jan. 26, and we were glad to have him. Come back any time, Bro. Gene.

January 29 Brother Richard Coss had our Wednesday night services, which we all enjoyed very much. Brother Bob was sick and wasn't able to be in the service.

Brother Bob is preaching on the coming of the Lord from the chart, that was made by Bro. Ben Barker, on Sunday evenings. The services are good and time flies by too quickly. It seems we just get started and it is time to quit.

Midway Country Church

UNION CHAPEL, MISSOURI

The Lord is still sending us many rich blessings here at Chapel. We praise Him and thank Him for each need He has met.

We have been enjoying some visits from Bible School students since the Spring Semester has started. Bro. and Sis. Kenneth and Pam Keeling and Sis. Karen Mathis were the first to come. Bro. Kenneth bought the message for us. Sis. Pam gave us her testimony. Sis. Karen played the piano and sang for us. Then Bro. and Sis. Rene and Faye Haines and Sis. Vanessa Oakes came. Bro. Rene brought the message and Sis. Faye sang. Sis. Vanessa read one of her poems for us. We also enjoyed a visit from Bro. Curtis Bensch. And we had a visit from a former student, Sis. Ginny Stafford, who came and brought a message for us. We have enjoyed these young people very much and we thank God for the testimonies of their lives. It is good to see them taking a stand and living for the Lord. We are thankful for the Bible School and for the students who are studying there. Our doors are always open to you and our prayers are always with you. May God bless you each one.

Remember us in your prayers.

A. W. Ferguson, Pastor
Beth Williams, Reporter

WEBB CITY, MISSOURI

We had a very good revival with Bro. Randy Dalton the first week in December. It was a real time of refreshing in the Lord and a teenage girl was saved. Shari Cook added so much to the services with her musical talents that she uses for the Glory of God.

Since the Spring Semester of Bible College has been in progress we've enjoyed having several of the students come share with us in sermon or song. Among them were: Kenny and Pam Keeling, Rene and Faye Haines, Janae Harris, Russell Ball, Daniel (Bubba) Bachler, Steve Hackett, Kelly Stevenson and of course our own Valerie and Vanessa Oakes. Ginny Stafford a former student also visited our church recently.

We're excited about getting ur new church building under construction. We can hardly wait till that dream is a reality and we can move to 45th and Main in Joplin, Mo.

God continues to bless in our regular services and we are grateful. February 9 we had a baptismal service. We are proud of Brad Williams, one of our fine youth group, who followed the Lord in Baptism.

O. A. Busch, Pastor

REJECTION

Do you feel, my God,
the same pain of
separation
that I feel
when one I love
refuses to love,
to communicate,
to spend time with me?
Does Your heart break
as I go from day to day
giving only a moment to
thoughts of You
and less time
to our communion
Spirit to spirit?

Let me feel with You.
Let me know the brokenness
of rejection
that I may
never again
cause this hurt to You.

Skye Danvers



Mr. and Mrs. Randy Dodson, Neosho, announce the birth of their son, Cody Wayne, born December 29.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Roger Ross, Granby, and Mr. and Mrs. James Dodson, Neosho.

Great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Reynolds, Granby, Ruth Ross, Granby, and Marthel Leggett, Neosho.

Great-great-grandparents are Mr. Charles Reynolds, Arkansas, and Mary Jane Childress, Aurora.

March 1986



OBITUARIES

DOWNIE WOOSTER

Downie G. Wooster, 76, died Wednesday, Dec. 11, 1985.

Funeral service were held in the Trinity Apostolic Faith Church with the Rev. Neil Ragan and Bro. Winston Barker officiating. Burial was in the Confederate Cemetary under the direction of the Oak Park Funeral Home.

She was born Oct. 3, 1909, and was an Alvin resident for 51 years and a member of Trinity Apostolic Faith Church.

Survivors include her husband Winfree F. Wooster Sr., of Alvin; a daughter and son-in-law, Esther and George Moore of Magnolia; two sons and a daughter-in-law, Winfree F. Wooster Jr., of Deer Park, and James Harold "Buddy" and Lois Wooster of Miami, Okla.; three sisters, Blanche Luedecke of Galveston, Ann Sererin of Rosenberg, and Gladys Frye of Mt. Hope, Wis.; eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE

Life of Charles F. Parham	7.00
The Voice Crying in the Wilderness	2.00
Selected Sermons	1.50
Everlasting Gospel	2.00
Bible Doctrine	3.00
by Jacob Regeir	
Out in the Fields with God	3.00
by Pearl Menke	
Handling and Postage per book	.75

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Panhandle Youth Camp
 Laverne, Okla. Teen-June 9-14
 Junior-June 16-21

Chairman: **Tony Jacobs**
 901 Zauk
 Dumas, Tex. 79029

Lost Pines Youth Camp
 Warda, Texas June 8-13
Chairman: **Larry Welsh**
 764 Concordia
 Bellville, TX 77413

4-State Youth Camp
 Baxter Springs, KS June 15-20
Chairman: **Alvin Buschman**
 P.O. Box 286
 Cave Springs, AR 72718

CAMP MEETING 1986
 Laverne, Oklahoma
 July 28-Aug. 3

Chairman: **M.D. Methvin**
 Box 278
 Follett, Texas
 PH. 806-653-2801

Apostolic Faith Bible College
 announces
Commencement
May 7-8

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 Rev. Jack Cornell
 P.O. Box 110
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 Ph. 315-856-3283

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