

The Apostolic Faith Report

APRIL
1983

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HALLELUJAH! CHRIST AROSE!

As I was driving from our home to the Report office, the words of the familiar Easter hymn began going through my mind — "Up from the grave He arose, with a mighty triumph o'er His foes; He arose a Victor from the dark domain and He lives forever with His saints to reign, He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!" As I thought on this song the Lord brought to my remembrance the first time that I ever heard these words.

In 1954 I was living in Sasebo, Japan, with my parents. A good friend of mine was the daughter of the chaplain of the Army post and so I began to attend church with her. As Easter approached the choir began practising for the special services and since my friend was in the choir I decided that I'd like to join the choir also. We spent a lot of time preparing and learning the songs that were to be used and this beautiful hymn 'Christ Arose' was one of them. I loved the song from the first I heard it and enjoyed singing with the choir. Easter Sunday came and many people gathered for services that morning. The choir sang the hymns and the chaplain brought the message. I don't even remember what he spoke on but I shall never forget what followed. Since it was Easter communion was going to be taken. I didn't know anything much about this ordinance but as he opened this part of the service I felt that I would like to partake of it. I wasn't a Christian - had never heard of the "Full Gospel". I had heard that you should be a member of a church to take communion anyway. As I went to the front with the other members of the choir I felt real shaky, but as I knelt something happened that had never happened before. It seemed as though I was kneeling in the very presence of God. I felt like I was standing on Holy ground, a place I'd never been before. And I still believe I was. I didn't become a Christian that day — no one had ever told me about repentance — but that sacred visitation of God never left me. In fact it was several years before I heard the gospel preached but during those years God gently opened doors and tenderly spoke to my heart. So at this Easter time of 1983 my heart rejoices and remembers when God in all of His love and mercy made me aware of His Presence and that not only did Christ die for me but that "Christ Arose" for me as well.

May all praise, honour, and glory be given unto Him.

Karen

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. The 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 teaching approved by the Board from time to time if they are not inconsistent with the above listed basic doctrines.

THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

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STRENGTH IN SUFFERING

As a ministerial student here attending Bible School, God has enlightened me to many truths in His Word that I had overlooked in the past.

Recently my fiance's mother was stricken down with the last stages of leukemia and hospitalized. Renee (my fiance) was really upset and couldn't understand why her mother was suffering like this. She sent me the poem "God Knows Best" right after I came to Bible School. I read it and it really ministered to my heart. After reading this poem several times I phoned Renee and asked her to read the poem and meditate upon the words. She notified me a little while later and seemed to be relieved.

She couldn't understand why her mother was suffering like she was until the Lord revealed unto her that He knows best for all of us.

I have a few scripture references I would like to share with you on how suffering comes our way and how it can strengthen our Christian lives.

SUFFERING IS PROFITABLE: Hebrews 12:11. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

DEEPENS THE FAITH: I Peter 1:6-7. Wherein ye greatly rejoice though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations; (7) That the trial of your faith being much more precious than gold that perisheth though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

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

HIS GRACE IS SUFFICIENT: II Corinthians 13:9-10. For we are glad, when we are weak and ye are strong; and this also we wish even your perfection. (10) Therefore I write these things being absent lest being present, I should use sharpness according to the power which the Lord has given me to edification and not to destruction.

As a young minister, these scriptures and truths of God have helped me to cope with trials and temptations that confront me and I pray that they can minister to those who are suffering all over the nation. Thank you and may the blessings of God dwell unto you as you walk from day to day.

By Richard W. Morris
Ashland, Alabama

Sadness swept over me,
The gloom of sorrow — deep in despair
When to my heart's surprise; I found Jesus was there.
Doubts and fear coming against me,
Day by day, year by year,
And yet my Lord Jesus, He was near.
Calm is my day, comforting is my night
For Jesus my Lord has taken away my fright.
So shall it be when discouraged I am
That through Jesus I shall not condesend;
But He will lift me up
And show me His brightness;
And Lord Jesus shall say to me -
Less night, less night, for through the darkness we've
overcome.
And I Jesus my Father's Son
Have taken you through the night to meet me -
The Living Light, that no more
May you fear the shadows of night.

By Jason Phillips

TODAY IS THE DAY

Praise the Lord! Great is he and highly to be praised. We can't praise God enough for all he has done for humanity in this day. Psalms 118:24 says: This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. It is so wonderful to know that every day can be a good day because God has made it for his purpose. It is wonderful just to have the privilege to live in such a time as we do. The prophets desired to see the times in which we are now living. We see so many people just sitting around letting day after day pass. Today is the day we need to get busy for the Lord because soon this day will be no more. Paul said, today is the day of salvation. II Corinthians 6:2. We need to be witnessing to others. There is no better time to accept Jesus than now, this day and to follow as close as we can to the pattern Jesus left us. So many people are satisfied just where they are at now. Keep moving, friend, don't settle for one shoe when you can have two. You need them both to wear and walk. Move on in the Lord, looking ahead and desiring the perfection that is set ahead. Those that are redeemed from the earth before the Seventieth Week of Daniel will be a perfected class of people in every way, not defective. No one wants something that is bruised, torn, or defective. They want that, that is perfected. That's what Jesus wants for us. Today is the time to begin to trust God more, exercise more faith, witness more to those who are lost. Today, Jesus wants to save those that are lost. He said he came to seek and save those that are lost. Luke 19:10.

The Psalmist said WE will rejoice and be glad in it, so rejoice friend, Jesus has made this day for you, so you can do something to help others. Be glad in this day! The age of Grace is one of the most memorable time periods ever. We can rejoice because we don't have to make sacrifices as did those under the Law. It is freedom by grace through the shed blood of Jesus, salvation in the cross. Praise the Lord! So when you arise and see the sun coming up, remember this is the Lord's day, rejoice, be glad, praise God.

Your friend in Christ,
Tony Jacobs

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APOSTOLIC FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

NEWS

As I write this article things are really buzzing here at the Bible College. We are in the final days of preparation for our choir trip and everyone has that thing called spring fever. We are ready to travel!

Our prayer is that God will bless the choir and then make us a blessing to those we sing to. Sis. Janae has done a great job of preparing both songs and the choir.

Mid-term has come and gone and we are happy to say that God has blessed in each day of class and in every activity. The spiritual blessings have been many. The students and faculty continue to do a good job.

Our "thanks" again to those who are so faithful to this ministry of our movement. Always when the account gets low and the bills arrive somehow God's people respond and the need is met. Please continue to pray for us as we depend on God to supply us with spiritual leadership for this week.

Again we acquaint you with the funds our school operates out of. The GENERAL FUND takes care of operational expenses. The FACULTY FUND takes care of those who labor here. The BUILDING FUND takes care of paying building expenses such as the new Dining Hall facility. These areas need your attention. Remember we hope to dedicate the new building at the close of this term of school, but the Board says only if it's DEBT FREE. Help us do this!

Also the yearly insurance payment is now due on all properties held by our school. This fund needs attention so it can be paid.

We have said the above only to acquaint you and make all of us aware of our responsibilities.

May the Lord bless and repay you for all you have done, is our prayer.

Please mark the dates of the closing of Bible School. We hope you will be with us. Note the General Business Meeting date. Everyone needs to be present and back the Board for the work they are doing for all of us. Let's let them know we appreciate them. They all put in many hours of prayer and burden as well as miles traveled and phone calls, etc. to keep the school operating. God bless them is our prayer.

Supt. Jack Cornell

Girls Dorm:

This term of Bible College will very soon be history. As we begin to evaluate, we ask ourselves, have we seen the success we had hoped for? We know only eternity will reveal the true results. We have watched the spiritual growth of each student and rejoice at the special times of blessings from our Father. Each teacher has given out the word of truth and soberness. We remember how James tells us "of His own will begat He us the word of truth that we should be a kind of first fruits of His creatures." I have been thinking of a motivational seminar I once attended. Their brochure said "Life will never be the same. Meaning in living and joy in every activity will have a new glow and purpose when you complete this exciting seminar." That statement explains the way it is when you receive Jesus in your life in reality and truth. We trust each one attending this term of Bible College will leave with this experience. We can say as the

two men going to Emmaus "Did not our hearts burn within us as we have seen souls touched by the Holy Spirit."

I have appreciated the burdens the students and faculty accept as prayer requests come in from so many that are going through trials of sickness and hardships. It makes us realize how many look to the Bible College for help and also helps us fulfill the word Paul tells us "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

The students have been wonderful and enjoy working together on their detail duties. The new building is a real blessing to our school. The cafeteria makes mealtime enjoyable and the cooks are enjoying the conveniences it offers. We really thank all who have helped make this possible and pray we can see the building dedicated debt free soon. The boys at the school have worked very hard planting the shrubs around the ground. Everything looks so nice as spring is beginning to make its appearance.

The girls dorm is a busy place although we are not a great number. Devotional time has been inspiring as we discuss the lessons of the day and study God's word. Our lessons have made us aware we are to make God's word available but not acceptable to the world. We do not change the word but mold our lives to it. We have our fun times as secret sisters scheme around with favors to each other, trying hard to keep a secret.

There is still much to be done. The Lord is blessing here but we ask you to continue to remember us in your prayers that the Lord may continue to guide us through the rest of the term, that his divine will be accomplished. May God bless you all.

Pauline Messner
Dorm Mom

Bible School is a truly unique experience. It is a time to share with each other and draw closer to the Lord.

Our dorm mother, Sis. Pauline Messner, is an inspiration to all of us. She always has a smile when we are blue, and advice when we are troubled.

March 18-25 was Choir Tour week. This year we visited the Southern States. We visited the churches at Rockdale, Hempstead, Katy, Alvin, Hinton, Pine Hill, and Ashland. Choir Tour was really enjoyed by each member of the choir. The Lord really blessed the services we were in. I would like to thank each family for opening their homes to us. God bless you for your thoughtfulness.

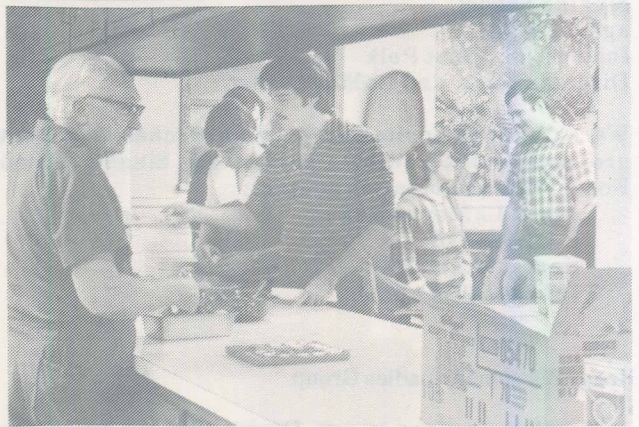
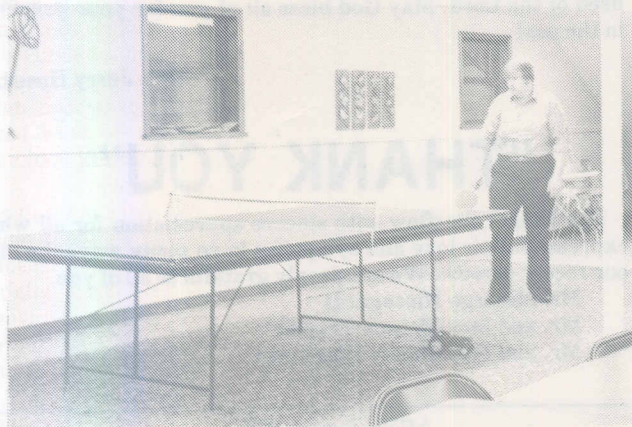
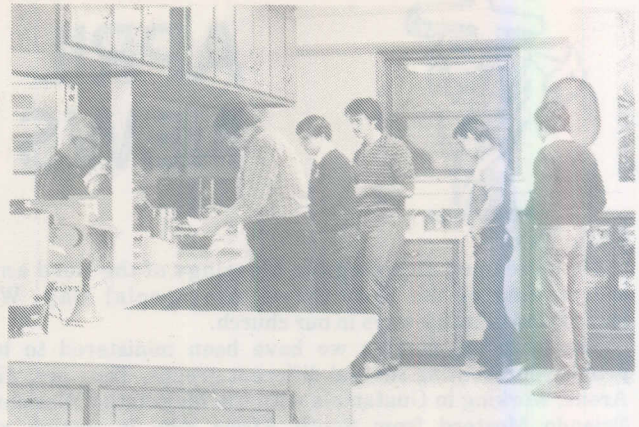
Love in Christ,
Laura Pearson

Boy's Dorm:

Psalms 84:10 For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness.

I believe that each one of the young men in the dorm could say this from the bottom of his heart. The things that we have learned in this half of Bible School has really changed each one of us. We realize the tremendous sacrifice that the

AFBC ENJOYS NEW CAFETERIA



teachers and faculty are making and also the sacrifice of the people of the entire movement are making so that we can have the privilege to come and study God's Word. The Lord tells us, freely we have received so freely give, and I think that all of us have been made to realize that we have a responsibility to take the things that we have learned here and to put them to work in the fields of God. I am sure that I speak for each one of the guys when I say thank you and God bless you to each one that has had a part in this school, and also to ask for your prayers that we might go out from this place and follow the Lord's will wherever it might lead.

In Christ's love,
Don Mullins





APRIL NEWS

Katy, Texas

We have been enjoying the blessings of the Lord and the moving of the Holy Spirit in a special way. We lory of God in many ways in our church.

The past few months we have been ministered to by people representing several different groups. They are: Jill Arens, working in Guatamala with the Maranatha Missions, Orlando Mosterd from South Africa who is setting up Christian radio there, The Signs of Love Group from Christ for the Nations, and The Honorable Tina Pinel, Honduras Consul General. We thank God for the opportunity to meet and worship with these His Children who are working for him in various ministries. We are looking forward to the Bible School Choir coming to our church. Wayne Rucker from our church is attending school this term.

YOUTH CAMP & SINGING SCHOOL

June 5 - 10

Warda, Texas

Junior Camp

ages 9 - 11

Camp director: Betty Welch

Singing School

ages 12 & up

Instructor: Videt Polk

Directors: Jim and LaMoyne Fox

We extend an invitation to all churches and youth groups to come and be a part of our Singing School. For further information contact:

Jim & LaMoyne Fox

P.O. Box 713

Katy, Texas 77449

713-391-3426 or 3310

Range Missionary Ladies Group

Christian greetings to you. During 1982 our group gave 151 boxes of clothing, 164 quilts, 72 pillows, 34 lap robes, Thanksgiving plates to the elderly and Christmas boxes to rest homes in Guymon, Okla., and Perryton, Texas; an orphanage in Reynosa, Mexico; missionary Naomi Saulter, Sells, Ariz.; Guymon Mission; Salvation Army; Cal Farley's Boys Ranch and Girls Town in Borger, Texas.

We had a devotional and special prayer each time we met. We sent out cards to different ones throughout the year. God has been good to us and blessed our efforts. We count it a privilege to work for Him even in a small way.

May God bless you.

Mrs. Herman James

Range Missionary Ladies Group

Rockdale, TX

The Reverend Roland Haney started his ministry as pastor of the Rockdale Apostolic Faith Church in January of this year. He and his wife, Loretta, are very enthused about being in Rockdale and feel that this is where God wants them. From the time Rev. Dean Harper left the church last summer different ministers filled in until Rev. Haney came. These men of God were a great blessing to the people, and we thank them for coming.

Rev. Haney comes to Rockdale from his last place of pastoring in Crosses, Arkansas. He, with the anointing of the Holy Spirit, is delivering some needed, powerful sermons. He has a kind manner of bringing the Word, and the people are very expectant of many blessings in the future. Loretta is proving to be a real worker, and she and her husband are a real inspiration with their songs.

We ask that Christians who read this will pray for our church. There is potential for growth, and we want to be used of the Lord. May God bless all of you for your prayers in the past.

Mrs. Jerry Hosek

"THANK YOU"

Our hearts overflow with sincere appreciation for all who expressed their love and sympathy in so many ways during our recent sorrow. We are deeply grateful to all of you.

Mrs. George Hintegardt

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Trayler

Mr. and Mrs. Benny Buschman



Rev. and Mrs. James Ray Routh of Des Arc, Ark., announce the birth of their daughter, Amanda Jo. She was born on Jan. 21, 1983, weighing 5 pounds 13 and three-fourth ounces and measuring 18 and one-half inches. She joins a sister, 4-year-old Janae, and a brother, 19-months-old Jonathan.

Grandparents are Rev. and Mrs. Elmer Christenson of Galena, Kans., and Mrs. Floy Routh of Lonoake, Ark.

CAMP MEETING 1983

JULY 25-31

BAXTER SPRINGS

KANSAS

OPEN FOR CALLS:

As supply pastor or evangelist

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Phone 505-396-3840

First of all I would like for us to understand what the word 'apostacy' really means. I talked to a minister friend not long ago and he told me that one time at camp meeting he brought a morning Bible lesson on the subject of apostacy. After the service was over a lady came to him and said "Brother, what does the word apostacy mean?" Webster says it is the forsaking or abandonment of what one has hitherto professed or adhered to, as a faith, principle or party. An apostate condition also means a letting down. As we often say, the old "I don't care" position. I would like to tell you what I think is an apostate condition that has overtaken our churches. Please do not brand me as a fault finder because of what I am going to say. I say it because I see it as a minister every day. Christian people are just not as dedicated to church and the Lord as they should be. Seems that people make every excuse that is possible to stay out of the service of the Lord. Cold weather? It is too cold to get out, the church is not as warm as our house. Hot weather? Most every church has air conditioning. Work too hard? Get up too early? Most services only last until 8:30 p.m. or 9 p.m. How long would you stay up and watch T.V. at home? Oh yes but we have to stay up and watch the news. Maybe if you came to church you might hear the good news of the gospel. Apostatetic conditions have hit the whole religious world, but I am personally concerned about our own movement. What has happened to the way that WE used to worship the Lord? We preachers can talk to our congregations about revivals and they will all agree that we need revival and we call someone to come and everyone is enthused for the first two or three nights, and then it is all over. People are tired, or lodge night comes along, and WE just couldn't miss lodge. Where is our consecration? We try to blame the evangelists for not staying more than one week, but what is the use of staying if the people are not interested enough to come to church. You cannot have a revival without people to preach to. What has happened to the old-fashioned prayer meeting? Have people made the house of God a play thing? You can announce a party and suddenly the ones who can't come to church can always find time to get there. Have we come to the place where we have

to entertain our young people to get them to come to church? What is wrong with them loving the Lord enough to come? Not long ago our church wanted to organize a baseball team and play competitive ball. Our church board said "No" so they all quit and went to another church which allowed a baseball team. It wasn't long until one game wound up with trouble. You will say "Are you against young people having a good time and enjoying themselves?" Certainly not; but I am against mixing worldly pleasure with church. If we teach our young people that a certain amount of worldly pleasure goes along with salvation, we are teaching them wrong. We had one young person quit our church and go to another because they had foos ball machines and pool tables in the basement. Some of our own Apostolic people have them, so why criticize others for what we are doing ourselves? WE need an awakening to the spiritual values today more than at any other time in all of the world. We should teach them to love God enough to serve Him without reservation. What has happened to the old-time sanctifying power of the Blood to cleanse us from these things? I believe that we are changing so much that you can hardly tell some of our Apostolic Faith churches from the other denominational churches. Why don't we teach our people that it is just as wrong to go to picture shows as it always was? The churches did not used to have rummage sales, bake sales and all kinds of gimmicks to raise money. If you have things that you cannot use, give them to the poor. I also do not believe in selling things in church. A few years ago we here in Galena got hooked into a deal that sounded good. A man came along and offered to take a picture of everybody in the church and make a church directory free of charge. Well, we all fell for it, hook, line and sinker as they say, but we found out that all he wanted was to get into the church to commercialize on taking everybody's picture and then try to sell everyone a picture. We also have other things that people pull some of the time. We have people who say "I am a missionary" and spend two or three months over there and the rest of the time over here gathering money from our churches. There is just one thing that I can say in closing: Be not deceived, God is not mocked, for what a man soweth, he shall also reap.

OBITUARIES

PEARL COBERLY

Pearl Coberly, 86, of Lubbock, Texas, passed away on Dec. 31, 1982, in Big Springs, Texas. She was born June 5, 1896, in Bentonville, Ark., and lived there until she was 14 years old. She married Homer Coberly June 6, 1914, at Cave Springs, Ark.

She was a member of the Apostolic Faith Movement. She was involved in evangelistic work with her husband and traveled all over the United States for over 50 years.

She is survived by her husband; one son, R. L. Coberly of Sherman, Texas; one daughter, Euteva Dunn of Big Springs, Texas; three grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, and five step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on Jan. 3, 1983, in Lubbock, Texas, with the Rev. Marcus Adair officiating. Graveside committal and burial were Jan. 5, 1983, in Cave Springs, Ark., with Rev. Wapel Ferguson officiating.



'Twas a sheep, not a lamb, that strayed away
In the parable Jesus told;
A grown-up sheep that had gone astray
From the ninety and nine in the fold.

Out on the hillside, out in the cold,
'Twas a sheep the Good Shepherd sought;
And back to the flock, safe to the fold,
'Twas a sheep the Good Shepherd brought.

And why for the sheep should we earnestly long
And as earnestly hope and pray?
Because there is danger — if they go wrong
They will lead the lambs astray.

For the lambs will follow the sheep you know,
Where ever the sheep may stray.
When the sheep go wrong, it will not be long
Till the lambs are as wrong as they.

And so with the sheep we earnestly plead
For the sake of the lambs today;
If the sheep are lost — what a terrible cost
Some of the lambs will have to pay.

Author Unknown

LORD IS IT I?

By Dora Beydler

"Now when even was come, He sat down with the twelve. And as they did eat, He said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto Him, Lord, is it I?" When Jesus said this to His disciples they were eating the passover together just before Judas betrayed Jesus.

The Webster's dictionary says to betray means to deliver to an enemy; to prove faithless to one who trusts; to lead into error, sin or danger. In the case of Judas' betrayal of Jesus, it ended in Jesus' arrest, which culminated in the crucifixion. Judas delivered Jesus to an enemy. It is easy for us to point a finger at Judas because his crime was boldly accomplished. Not one of us would sell the Son of God for any price, especially thirty pieces of silver! This was the ordinary price for a wounded slave and in our money it would equal \$16.96. This computation was published before the present inflation and some say it would now be about equal to \$25. At either figure, what a wretched price to accept for the price of any man's life, no matter what the reason! And so we condemn Judas. People today are concerned about the physical life of the human being but how about the testimony we fail to give which could save the soul of someone who is sinking in sin. We are concerned about our own material wealth and in so doing we are, in a sense, saying Jesus is not important. Just let the rest of the world do with Him as they please. Lord, is it I who is selling my Lord for a mess of pottage? Have I let others decide to

cast Him away as the mob cried at His trial because I have been afraid to speak for Him? Lord, is it I whose silence is giving consent?

Webster's definition of betray also means to prove faithless to one who trusts. We read in Hebrews 10:26-29, "For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for the judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the spirit of grace?" How sad it is that so many people today, who proclaim to be Christians, are following so far off the world cannot see Christ in them. These people once had a real experience in the salvation purchased for them by our Lord. Many of them probably only had the experience of justification but many more have been sanctified and some have even been baptized by the Holy Ghost. The Lord trusted all of these people and gave them His blessing. With that blessing He trusted them to live unto Him and to forsake all other paths. At first the failure to keep this trust may not have been intentional but something which looked so insignificant crept into their lives then more and more they drifted away from that first love. Lord, is it I who may have drifted into this number? Jesus called to them many times. At first the reproof was gentle and it pricked their conscience but the glitter of the life they now were entering kept them from turning back. The path began to widen; more and more people traveled the same road and the association with them was so enjoyable they turned a deaf ear to the Lord. This they do willingly. Eventually they are treading the blood, which Jesus shed for them, underfoot. They are as guilty of betraying Christ as was Judas. Jesus wants to be their love, first in thought and deed, and He told the people of the church of Ephesus they must repent. Revelation 2:4-5. The 26th verse, which was copied above, says that after we have wilfully sinned and have fallen away, there is no more (or no other) sacrifice for us to look to for the redemption from sin. We must turn back to the Christ whose trust we have broken and through repentance to the One we have trodden underfoot and openly shamed, we must come to the place we once left behind. He is the only sacrifice for sin and we cannot find forgiveness in any other. Hebrews 6:4-6 reads, "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put Him to an open shame." Verse 6 is of special importance in telling us these people who fall away or betray the trust placed in them by the Christ cannot drift in their own desires, following every human trend, then suddenly just come back to the church and join themselves to the Christian fellowship as though they had been there all the time. Such is an impossibility without first repenting for leaving the path they once knew. In the King James version we read "renew them again unto repentance" but the Greek reads "again to repentance" and it is used in the ordinal sense. The first thing to do is to repent. When we also read Hebrews 10:26 we understand repentance must first be for the betrayal of Christ in

breaking His trust. Lord, is it I who has been so thoughtless? I John 1:19 says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." We need to be very sure we keep a clean record before our Lord.

Then there is another meaning in that word betray which says it is a betrayal to lead into error, sin or danger. So many doctrines found today appear good or even right on the surface. But do they wear well? Do they agree with what Jesus taught? Many people today are following after a doctrine which seems to be very spiritual, that is until you measure its people. Its followers are leading many who were once solid Christians into thinking it is a new height in spirituality. Proverbs 14:12 says though, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." When the doctrine does not lead people by the doctrines taught by our Lord, it is a false doctrine and is leading people into error. Just because people can pretend and make a big show in numbers it does not mean a measure of spirituality. Jesus said "Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say unto you, that except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:19-20. He called the scribes and Pharisees whited sepulchers. They pointed their fingers at those who murdered the prophets saying if they had lived in the days of the prophets they would have had no part in the shedding of blood, Matthew 23:30, but just a few days later they cried 'crucify Him' along with the mob. They were just as guilty of betraying Jesus as was Judas. If we follow a self-righteous way in claims without a life to show we are what we say we are, we too, are just as guilty as was Judas. "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven," Matthew 7:21. If we live a hypocritical life we lead others into sin and in danger of the judgment. They cannot see Christ in our careless living and in so hiding the Christ who died for them we are letting them go on their way headed for the lake of fire. Lord, have I been guilty of leading people into a careless way of living? Paul said, "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." I Corinthians 9:27.

There were twelve disciples who ate that passover supper with Jesus just before the crucifixion. They had all walked with Him from mountain villages to the seashore, over the rocky trails from the southern part of the Jordan river to the northern part of Galilee and back to Jerusalem through Samaria where He talked with the woman at the well. No doubt they had all been in all kinds of weather while they waited when He prayed all night in the mountain. I'm sure they must have been caught in the rain showers from time to time and then they must have all shivered in the winter weather as they walked with Him from place to place. They had all heard Him preach to the multitudes and had seen Him break the bread and the fishes to feed the thousands. They all twelve helped to gather the basketfuls of the left-over bread and fish after the multitude had eaten. They all saw Him heal the sick, raise the dead, give sight to the blind, heal the crippled and the lepers. They were all in the ship when He stilled the boisterous waves. Again they were all in the ship when Jesus came to them walking on the

water and they all saw Peter walk on the water at His bidding. They were all twelve commissioned to take the Gospel to the lost in Israel, Matthew 10:5-15, and probably all had met with problems as well as approval in various places. They all agreed when Peter said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God." John 6:68-69. These twelve men were all numbered together as His special followers, those who were all allowed to see into the depth of His teachings and were given the explanations of His parables. They all hailed Jesus as King on that day when He entered Jerusalem on that glorious morning when even the rocks would have cried out if the multitude had held their peace. But apparently some had followed for the loaves and the fishes, for the hope that He would physically set them free from the Roman power. It seems not even the apostles grasped the truth that He wanted to be King of their hearts and set them free from sin and the powers that are driven by satan. Though He had told them plainly that His kingdom was in them, they all felt He would set up that earthly kingdom then and not off in the distant future. Luke 19:11. When Mary anointed Jesus with the pure spikenard ointment which was so expensive, He told those who objected to the extravagance that she did it for His burial. This seems to have been the final point which made Judas to realize that being a follower of Jesus would not immediately bring the desired deliverance from Rome for which his Jewish Nationalism had hoped. He went to the priests to bargain with them. There have been a number of ideas expressed for the why that Judas betrayed Jesus but then man has always had excuses for his failures and especially when it comes to his failure to continue his walk with the Lord. One writer said, "Whatever may have been Judas' reason, it was not Judas who caused Jesus to be nailed to the cross, it was our sins that put Him there. We each have had a part in that crucifixion." Lord, help me to not be guilty of further betrayal. When Jesus was taken by the mob, "Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled." Matthew 26:56. Where was their boasted loyalty of a few hours before?

There were twelve disciples who followed Jesus and enjoyed being His special chosen for over three years, but when the hastily gathered mob came to take Him for the priests, one had already sold his Lord and the rest fled and lost themselves among the mob! We read in Luke 22:54, "Then took they Him, and led Him, and brought Him into the high priest's house. And Peter followed afar off." John and Peter are the only ones of the twelve mentioned in coming to the palace of the high priest. John went inside and would have taken Peter inside but at the door, Peter denied knowing Him! John 18:15-17.

Jesus has given each of us a trust and has prepared the way and so completely marked it by His blood, and His way of life, that Isaiah 35:8 says, "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it; but it shall be for those: the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein." All who go by the name of Christian must be Christ-like in word and in deed or they are betraying the best Friend they ever had. Oh, how careless we are today. The disciples each asked, Lord, is it I? Yes, they all had a part in that betrayal in some way or another and as I question myself I'm afraid I must answer my own question with, "Yes Lord, it is I who stands in the need of prayer, lest after having preached the Gospel, I, myself, should become a castaway."

TEACHER

Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say. Exodus 4:12.

This scripture should be hidden in the heart of every teacher. God will teach our minds and hearts what they need to know. If we are completely open and submissive to Him, He will show us what He wants our students to learn.

Teaching a class, no matter what their ages, is a huge responsibility. A teacher can shape her students in any way she desires. She can teach them a complete false doctrine, or she can shade the truth with partial untruths. She can cause her students to depend solely on emotions, or she can instill in their hearts a strong and firm faith in the Lord. However she teaches them, she must answer to God for it.

Teaching takes many hours of prayer and study to be able to master the art successfully. During this time of preparation and seeking God, He can reveal what lesson to teach and how to teach it. He knows each student's problem and particular trial. God will give words to the teacher which will minister to not only the student going through the hard time, but He will touch the hearts of the rest of the class.

There are many different methods which can be used for lesson preparation. God can reveal to the teacher which method will be most successful for each lesson; He knows the method needed to reach the students with the subject at hand.

When we begin to discuss teaching methods, we need to remember one thought: A teacher needs to think more along the lines of helping a student learn as opposed to teaching the student. When it is thought of in this way, a teacher will be more effective in getting her point across. It is for this very reason: she will be more concerned in her students rather than her own convenience.

Also, a teacher needs to keep growing in the word of the Lord. If she is only concerned with getting the weekly lesson everytime she opens God's word, she will begin to lose sight of the things of the Lord. When this happens she will get cold and indifferent and soon be out of the Lord's divine will.

Besides the teacher growing in the word, she needs to expand her horizons and means of teaching. She should never get to the place where she thinks she knows everything there is to know about teaching her age group. Proverbs 18:15 says, "The heart of the prudent getteth knowledge; and the ear of the wise seeketh knowledge." The teacher needs to avail herself of the many resources that she has at her fingertips. To get new teaching methods she can attend other area Sunday schools, public schools, study current publications, observe billboards, and be open to suggestions. In many cases a few words of a phrase or the illustrations changed will create a new lesson or bulletin board for the Sunday school classroom. Another excellent place to glean new ideas, methods, and techniques is at Sunday school seminars and workshops. All the newest ideas and methods are taught. Old standard methods are updated and revitalized. Nobody is ever too old to learn.

When teaching methods are being chosen for a lesson, the teacher needs to keep in mind the principles of learning. They are: readiness, motivation, memory, and involvement. When these principles are all fulfilled, the teacher is more likely to get her point of the lesson across. These four points need to be considered and dwelled upon every time a method is used.

April 1983

TRAINING

READINESS. The teacher needs to be ready in all aspects of the lesson. Supplies need to be on hand, groups need to be divided, questions need to be ready, and instructions should be clearly written out. All of these details need to be taken care of before the teacher walks into the church on Sunday morning. If these minor details are not taken care of before class, it can totally destroy what could be a good activity.

MOTIVATION. Make the students think for themselves. What could be a simply thought through question, can be made into a highly motivating question. They need to be challenged as opposed to being spoon fed. They will remember the truths taught to them longer if they dig them out for themselves.

MEMORY. An important goal for a teacher to strive for is instilling the word of God in the hearts of her students. She first must make them realize the importance of this action. When they understand the why behind the reason, they will become excited about hiding the word in their hearts.

INVOLVEMENT. Make sure each student is involved. They are all important and can put their share into the lesson. The teacher needs to become aware of a student who is not participating and draw him in.

Another point to remember is variety. If all of the above four points are utilized and variety is not, the purpose again will be defeated. When students get bored, many different things can happen. People will lose interest and quit, they won't follow the line of the lesson, and the teacher won't be able to meet the needs of the students. A simple rule to follow is to try to use three different teaching methods in each lesson.

When teachers seek God and His divine will for their class, all these other things will fall smoothly into place. Teaching is an awesome responsibility, but the rewards and blessings that one reaps from it are well worth the sacrifice and dedication it takes.

Take the "h" out of the students' blahs (humdrum, hassle, hectic, hollowness). Give them something to hold on to and something to fill the emptiness they feel. Change the blahs into the bla's by using bible learning activities.

By Lachelle Whiteley

Jesus was a master teacher as was demonstrated by His use of teaching methods. Jesus taught by using methods of question and answer, parables or storytelling, discussion, debate, teaching aids, lecturing, and assignments. There are many teaching methods and the best ones are those that closely relate to the way in which the student learns. The principles of learning are readiness, motivation, memory, and involvement. The most effective ones are those which fulfill these principles.

In class, after spending the time discussing what they have learned from through use of Bible Learning Activities, each learner needs to apply the truths of scripture to his or her own life. There is a variety of ways in choosing or evaluating the best teaching methods. The choice is often left up to the teachers' likes and dislikes. If teachers do not use a broad range of teaching methods when students are real young, then when they get older, they might not be as easily taught. There are exciting methods we can use to

keep their learning abilities alive, such as music, written methods, lectures, research, art, drama, and discussion. There are several learning activities within each of the methods listed previously. I, personally, feel one should restrict the methods used to ones that direct the thoughts straight from the Bible. It never hurts to use creative methods because sometimes they are the ones that generally reach out to the youth.

In use of teaching methods, it is always helpful to use Bible learning activities (BLA'S). These are methods used to learn spiritual truth and to help students learn to help themselves. Planned involvement leads to superior and lasting results. Encourage students by assuring them that you have confidence in their ability to accomplish the learning activity. Students enjoy hearing or seeing what others have done. Ask for volunteers to share ideas, letting your students know their opinions and ideas are important. Always be thankful of students for their efforts whether they complete their projects or not. Explore the history of the Bible in your class because it involves each learner directly in the study of God's Word.

By David Loveless

BLA's, — Bible Learning Activities — or maybe better explained as teaching methods, are very important tools of teaching to all ages. Sunday School teachers, youth group leaders, or any other type of teacher should have a variety of ways to not only teach their class, but also how to get their point across in a way that their students can apply what they have learned to their everyday lives. This may sound like it would take a lot of work, and it does! Being a teacher of God's Word is a terrific responsibility for anyone, and we should want to always be looking for the best ways to teach our classes, of which there are numerous techniques that can be usable.

There are many BLA's that can be used, whether you find them in a book, or if you make them up yourself, but you must be careful that your class doesn't turn into an "all-play-no-work" situation. There are times when you, as a class, should have fun with learning, but if this is the only way that is used in a class, the students will soon grow accustomed to the practice, and to keep their attention, you will have to keep them entertained. BLA's should not be used for entertainment; they should be used for what they mean — to learn about the Bible by doing.

As a teacher, there are many responsibilities that must not go unheeded. Although there are many of them, I believe it all boils down to the three P's — prayer, preparation, and presentation. We must make sure that these three things are well taken care of if we plan to become effective teachers.

First, for any Christian, whether he be a teacher or not, prayer should be one of the most important things in our lives. "If we don't talk to God, He won't talk to us" is a phrase that has always stuck out to me, and this should speak very plainly to a teacher. Through prayer, God can tell us what materials to use for our class, how to teach it, and then He will bless us through results. God knows every student's needs, and He may lead us to a certain channel of teaching that will meet every need, but if we aren't in constant contact with Him, we will not know God's will for our class, not to mention our own life. Prayer should come FIRST in our life!

Second, preparing for your class is of great importance. With only a short time in which to be with your students, you should be prepared to be able to fill each minute with ease. Your students will be able to tell right off if you have prepared or not, and if they know you are not interested about the lesson, you can bet that they won't be, either. If you have planned a BLA for your class period, make sure all of the materials are ready, for as said before, you have such a short time with your students during class. Be prepared!

Third, if you have prayed and prepared for your class, the Holy Spirit will work through you and help you present your lesson in such a way you thought was not possible. This aspect of teaching is very, very important to your students. The lesson must be presented in such a way that they will be able to understand, and through your presentation they can be motivated to tell others what has been learned. Enthusiasm in your presentation is a chief factor concerning the outcome of your lesson. If your students don't see that you are enthused or excited about what you are putting before them, how can you expect them to get enthused about it? You must let the Holy Spirit work in your presentation!

These are just three of numerous responsibilities of a teacher, but if we can put these to work in our life, I believe everything else will fall into place as we teach.

By David Robinson

Bible Learning Activities enables students (of any age) to get effective results in their search for learning and understanding about God's Word.

I don't believe you can replace an interesting and exciting Bible discussion with anything better. If it's carefully planned by the teacher, and taught with the anointing of the Holy Spirit it can be exciting in a study discussion.

But sometimes different methods can help us to understand the truths of the Bible, and the message that can be taught from it.

There are seven major categories of activities: discussion, writing, drama, art, music, lecture, and research.

When using BLA's, first, we must learn how to apply it to our students' daily lives, so it will enable them to be active in the learning process. Second, we need to vary our styles and methods of teaching so as not to get in a rut, but keeping the interest high. Third, the tool of our studies is the Bible. The activities are centered in the Bible.

Our part as a teacher will have the biggest effect on each individual. We must help the student to learn, and to discover how to apply the truths to their lives. We must gain (and maintain) their complete confidence in us as Christians. But above all else we must show a genuine love for each individual. Rejoice with them in each victory, and uphold them through each trial. The ultimate step is to model to them the Christian example. They'll learn more from what they see in our lives than from us trying to tell them how to live theirs.

To be effective in teaching involves setting up the best possible conditions for learning and directing toward a specific goal as they learn. I like this saying, "the teacher should do less teaching and the learner more learning." An effective teacher doesn't teach (in the ordinary sense of the word), he should organize the classroom environment and set a stage so the students will learn.

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To teach does not involve following certain rules developed by someone else. To teach so that all will be able to understand, a teacher may have to improvise and devise some methods to meet the needs of his students. It's possible to do this if you understand the different techniques. Remember, it's impossible to get something out of nothing. Effectiveness depends on if the teacher is learning while he teaches.

We must plan our activities with care. Unnecessary interruptions can be avoided through careful planning. Give written instructions so the students can go over them if needed. If they then fail to understand, explain to them in a little different manner yet getting the same motivational idea across.

Make sure then that someone is placed in charge of each group, to keep the group on track. Also, someone needs to take notes and be responsible for what is discussed in writing. You can vary the methods in choosing the people in charge. Rotate and let everyone have a turn and can feel the importance of helping others to learn.

Have a set amount of time involved in an activity. You don't want all play and no work. Also, warn them before the time is up. It helps to motivate a little faster! Trying also to get the best possible answer.

After giving them their instructions and encouraging their confidence that you trust and believe they can, let them do the work. Assist or guide them if you need to but let them learn through firsthand experience now.

If you have more than one group, allow enough time for each group to report the results of its activities. In using Bla's a teacher must know what the final purpose is he wants the students to achieve. We must learn to control and direct each activity to that one specific goal. You must be aware to take advantage of situations when necessary and be consistent in helping each student profit from all the activities.

Then give praise and be appreciative when they've put forth effort in the activities.

Bla's are methods that vary to help your class members learn or teach themselves. According to a recent study, children retain 90 percent (after three days) of what they see, hear, and DO. As in opposition to hearing only, you only retain 10 percent of what you hear. Bla's can and DO benefit students.

To sum up the Bla's:

This - encouraged commitments to daily lives

-plus more learning

-plus greater retention

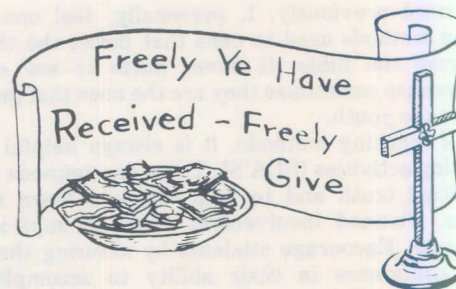
-plus Biblical truths applied

Results = CHANGED LIVES

By Mary Ann Pope

NOTICE

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.



I. TO WHOM ARE WE TO GIVE?

To the Lord.

Gen. 14:20, Heb. 7:4-6. Abraham paid tithes to Melchisedec the Priest.

Gen. 28:22. Jacob at Bethel pledged tithes unto the Lord.

Lev. 27:30. Tithe is the Lord's.

Acts 4:37. "Laid at Apostles' feet."

(Brought to God's house).

II. WHY ARE WE TO GIVE?

(1) We are commanded to give. (John 14:15 and 23).

Lev. 27:30-32. Tithe is the Lord's.

Prov. 3:9-10. "Honor the Lord."

Mal. 3:8-12. "Bring ye all the tithes."

Luke 6:38. "Give and it shall be given unto you."

(2) Because of the blessing to the giver.

Prov. 11:24-25. Scattereth and yet increaseth.

Matt. 6:33. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God."

Luke 6:38. "Give and it shall be given unto you."

Acts 20:35. "More blessed to give than to receive."

(3) "Because it is the highest test of our love to God."

Matt. 6:19-21. "For where your treasure is there will your heart be also."

II Cor. 8:9. "Though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor."

John 3:16. God gave His Son for us.

(4) Because of God's judgment upon those who withhold.

Mal. 3:9. "Ye are cursed with a curse for ye have robbed me."

Prov. 11:24. "Withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty."

III. HOW MUCH ARE WE TO GIVE? — The Tithe.

Lev. 27:30. The tithe is the Lord's.

Mal. 3:10. "Bring ye (personal and imperative) all the tithes.

Matt. 23:23. Christ endorses and commends and commands tithes.

IV. WHEN ARE WE TO GIVE?

I Cor. 16:2. "Upon the first day of the week."

V. WHO IS TO GIVE?

II Cor. 9:6-7. "Every man."

STEWARD SHIP

By Rev. Donald D. Dibbens

Stewardship is the position, duties or service of a steward. A steward is one who acts as a supervisor or administrator, as of finances or property belonging to another.

First we must settle one item. Man does not actually own anything. God gave man a soul and the right of choice. That is all. He loans us the breath of life. "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24:1. "Every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills." Psalm 50:10. "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of hosts." Haggai 2:8. We could also include the oil, gas, jewels, uranium, etc. It is not a matter of us choosing to be a steward. Man is a steward.

"As to all that we have and are, we are but stewards of the most high God ... " on all our possessions, on our time, and talents, and influence, and property. He has written "Occupy for me, and till I come." To obey His instructions, and serve Him faithfully is the true test of obedience and discipleship.

It is a dark sign when the owner is seen to be growing poor and his steward is found to be growing rich.

I want to use this first considering the wealth of rich people. It will be an item of great magnitude and calamity when the rich are called to give an account of their stewardship. Romans 14:12. "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." I conclude that many rich people will be called to give an account of how they used the riches God allowed them to accumulate.

To the poor there will be no worry about wealth but there will be the item of time and influence. They will give account of their stewardship.

I have dealt specifically with materialistic items so far. Let us go farther. I Corinthians 4:1-2, "Let a man so account of us, as ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." I Peter 4:10-11 "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

God gave His only Son, to suffer, bleed, and die on the Cross, for the sins of man. He arose from the tomb and is returned to God's throne having purchased all that man needs to be an overcomer in this life — the manifold grace of God — the mysteries of God. The working of the Spirit of God in the individual life. We shall give an account of this stewardship also.

I am not here to tell you witty things and make you laugh. I have something of far more value and responsibility and I'll give an account of that stewardship to God. I am not here to praise men or to commend another. I am here to lift up Jesus and point men to the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. How else can I apply verse eleven of Simon Peter's writings in chapter four second epistle, "if any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth." That puts my little bragging words in dire circumstances.

That puts flattering words in a bad light. I best be careful about a personal testimony that I don't put myself up so high that Jesus gets faded out of the picture. God, Jesus and the Holy Ghost are to get the glory. I am a steward of the manifold grace of God. On top of all this it is required of a steward that a man be found faithful. God is not going to treat unfaithfulness lightly and He knows exactly how faithful I have been. Beloved, we don't fool God. He knows how we present his manifold grace and the mysteries of his kingdom. He knows what we are doing and why we are doing it.

I turn to Luke 16:1-13 — this is the account of the unjust steward. A rich man had a steward. This steward was accused of wasting his goods. The steward was called to give an account of his stewardship. I wonder if any of us fall into this class. We have material things that belong to God. We have spiritual things that belong to God. We have the responsibility of God's kingdom here on earth. Suppose you were called to give an account of your stewardship? What would you do? How faithful have you been? This steward said within himself, "What shall I do? The Lord will take away my stewardship. I cannot dig: to beg I am ashamed." He decided to compromise. He called his lord's debtors and let them settle for half of their indebtedness. His figuring was that when he lost his stewardship the debtors would take him in. This is a general picture of thinking today. People are more concerned about material things and wealth than they are of the Mysteries of God or the Manifold grace of God.

Let us see what is said in verses 10 through 13. "He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much; and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.

If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true riches?

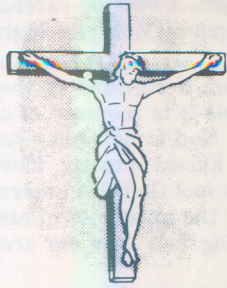
And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's who shall give you that which is your own?

No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

I cannot put stewardship in any plainer words. Beloved, we don't fool God. I would ask you in closing ... would you like to go to an altar and talk to God about your stewardship?



If all the lazy folks will get up,
And all the sleepy folks will wake up,
And all the discouraged folks will cheer up,
And all the gossiping folks will shut up,
And all the dishonest folks will confess up,
And all the estranged folks will make up,
And all the depressed folks will sweeten up,
And all the lukewarm folks will fire up,
And all the sanctified folks will show up,
And all the leading folks will live up,
And all the vowing folks will pay up,
And all the true soldiers will stand up,
Then — yes — then: we can have a good church!



THE CHURCH



By Mrs. E. A. Greever

My dear friends: I would first like to give my testimony before bringing scripture concerning the church.

In a small inland town, Preston, Missouri, at the age of twenty, I repented with godly sorrow for the sins I had committed. The peace I felt in my heart after my forgiveness was like none I had ever felt before. I then joined a church. But from 1908, when I was saved, until 1919 I was very troubled about which church was the right one. There were so many different churches with different names. At that time the mystery was solved by the ministers of the Apostolic Faith Movement. Oh, how my heart rejoiced!

By whom is the church built? Jesus. In Matthew 16:15-16, we find this: "And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." The things we receive from God are given by revelation. No scripture is of any private interpretation. II Peter 1:20.

Does it have a firm foundation?

"For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." I Corinthians 3:11. The stone which the builders refused is become the headstone of the corner. Psalms 118:20, Matthew 21:42. The foundation of God standeth sure having the seal. The Lord knoweth them that are His and let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity. II Timothy 2:19.

Of what is the church built?

Ye also as lively stones are built up a spiritual house. I Peter 2:5. Christ as a son over His own house whose house are we if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing firm unto the end. Hebrews 3:6.

How do we enter the church?

"Jesus said I am the door: by me if any man enter in he shall be saved and shall go in and out and find pasture." St.

John 10:9. The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved. Acts 2:47.

Saved from what? Sin and sin nature.

Once we were a people without Christ, strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God, in the world. We're brought nigh by the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:12-13. Much more than being now justified by His blood we shall be saved from wrath through him. Romans 5:9. Sin is the transgression of the law. I John 3:4. The law was our schoolmaster to bring us into Christ that we might be justified by faith. Galatians 3:24.

Who is the leader or head of the Church?

Christ is the head of the church and He is the Saviour of the body. Ephesians 5:23-24. Jesus Christ is the head of the body of the church. Colossians 1:18.

Where is our name recorded?

With our name recorded in the book of life, Philippians 4:3, our name is written in heaven. Luke 10:20.

Could our name be blotted out?

"He that overcometh I will not blot his name out of the book of life." Revelation 3:5. God so loved the world that He gave His son, Jesus Christ, gave himself for the church. All whose names are written in the book of life that the sin nature with which we are born might be cleansed making us a new creature in Christ Jesus. Galatians 6:15. A born-again experience gives us the grace wherein we can stand and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:2

Is there unity in the church?

Both he that sanctifieth and they who are sanctified are all of one (Jesus) for which cause He is not ashamed to call us brethren. Hebrews 2:11. Now read St. John, chapter 17. Christ's prayer for us, the church.

Is it a holy church?

The temple of God is holy which temple ye are. I Corinthians 3:17. An holy nation, a peculiar people who have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light. I Peter 2:9. Holiness becometh thine house. O Lord, forever. Psalms 93:5. Follow peace with all men and holiness without which no man shall see the Lord. Hebrews 12:14.

For whom is Christ coming?

A glorious church, holy and without blemish. Ephesians 5:27. My dear friends, the Bible tells us the church Jesus built is not a building with four walls, some made of brick, wood, or stone, stained windows and beautiful furnishings while others are of more moderate construction and within a book kept with the names of people who have joined the church. May the dear Lord help everybody to be sure their name is written in heaven also for in II Peter 3:10 we are told the earth and the works that are within shall be burned up. In the temple Jesus told some who had made His house a den of thieves, that his house was the house of prayer. Matthew 21:13. So we, His house, are a praying people and meet together to pray and worship God. And we are admonished not to forsake that. "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is but exhorting one another and so much the more as ye see the day approaching." Hebrews 10:25.

In Malachi 3:16-17 we read, "Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another and the Lord hearkened and heard it and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord and that thought upon his name. And they shall be mine saith the Lord of hosts in that day when I make up my jewels and I will spare them as a man spareth his own son that serveth him."

THAT FIRST EASTER

By Francis Speicher

As the first rays of morning light
 Pierced the darkness of the fallen night.
 Mary was first at the sepulcher, that day.
 To see if her Lord still lay in
 The temple of clay?
 As she peered inside the tomb
 'Twas empty as could be.
 But where could her Lord and Master be
 The lovely one who'd set her free
 From sinful guilt and agony.
 No one but He could set her free;
 As she turned from the tomb
 The gardner she did see.
 "Tell me please, Where have they laid
 My Christ of Galilee?"
 Then He spoke her name. "Mary",
 'Twas just the same.
 That familiar voice, she thought
 She'd never hear again.
 "Master, where have you been?
 I've searched the grave and I thought
 I'd never see you again.
 You are my Lord and Master, you'll always be.
 For time and eternity."
 "Now, hasten and tell the rest,
 I have risen indeed,
 And I ascend to my Father and yours.
 To my God and your God.
 For time and eternity,
 For I came to this world to set the captives free."

POSSESS YOUR VESSEL

By Harold McCance

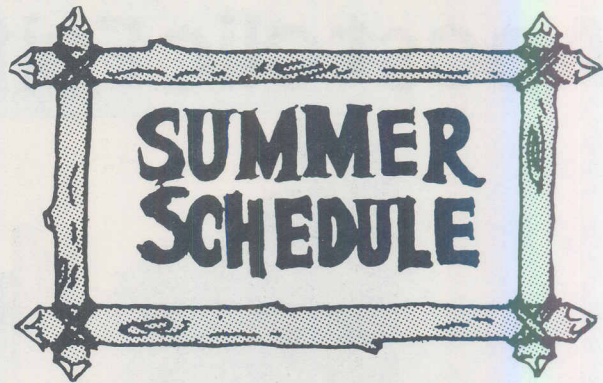
I Thessalonians 4:4. "That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour." This does not mean our flesh only. We first must begin with our spirit. Romans 8:16a. "The spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit." Hebrews 8:10b. "I will put my laws (plural) into their MIND (spirit)." I Corinthians 2:16 for we have the MIND of Christ and write them in their hearts (souls).

Then after our spirit is right before God, we can proceed to bring our bodies into subjection. That great apostle Paul said in I Corinthians 9:27, "I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection." To do that we must deal with that unruly member, the tongue. James 3:2. "For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the WHOLE BODY."

And to bridle the whole body means we must add temperance (in all things I Corinthians 9:25) which means (Luke 21:34) "take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting (in the Greek - overeating) and drunkenness, and the cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares."

And by grace through faith we can be saved, through the perfect law of liberty, wherewith Christ can make us free; for it is here a little and there a little, line upon line, precept upon precept, and grace for grace; revealed only by the spirit of the living God.

April 1983



Lost Pines Youth Camp-
 June 5-11 Warda, Texas

Mid-West Youth Camp
 June 6-11 Laverne, Okla.

4-State Youth Camp-
 June 12-17 Baxter Springs,
 Kansas

Pine Crest Youth Camp
 June 25-July 1 Quitman, Ms.

By
 Jeanie
 Mullins

He came as a stranger,
 Born in a manger;
 God's only Son.
 A life meek and lowly,
 With ways true and holy;
 Fathers will to be done.

The world would not accept him.
 His people rejected him.
 Thus he hung on Calvary's tree.
 He arose on the third day;
 As prophesied, without delay;
 To set whosoever will free.

Soon to earth again he'll come,
 To take his faithful home,
 There to reign eternally.
 All who have on wedding dress
 Will end sorrow and distress.
 'Twill be a glorious jubilee.

Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne and I founded empires;
 but upon what did we rest the creations of our genius? Upon
 force. Jesus Christ alone founded His empire upon love; and
 at this hour millions of men would die for Him.

-Napoleon Bonaparte

Apostolic Faith Bible College



ANNOUNCES Commencement May 11-12

CLOSING SERVICES OF THE APOSTOLIC FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE

May 11th and 12th 1983

Wednesday, May 11 - 1:00 p.m. - - - General Business Meeting: Election of 3 board members and other business.

Wednesday, May 11 - 7:30 p.m. - - - Closing Concert by the 1983 Bible College Choir

Thursday, May 12 - 10:00 a.m. - - - Ordination/Dedication Service

Thursday, May 12 - 2:00 p.m. - - - Welcome Home: Homecoming Service

Thursday, May 12 - 7:30 p.m. - - - Commencement Service

April 1983

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