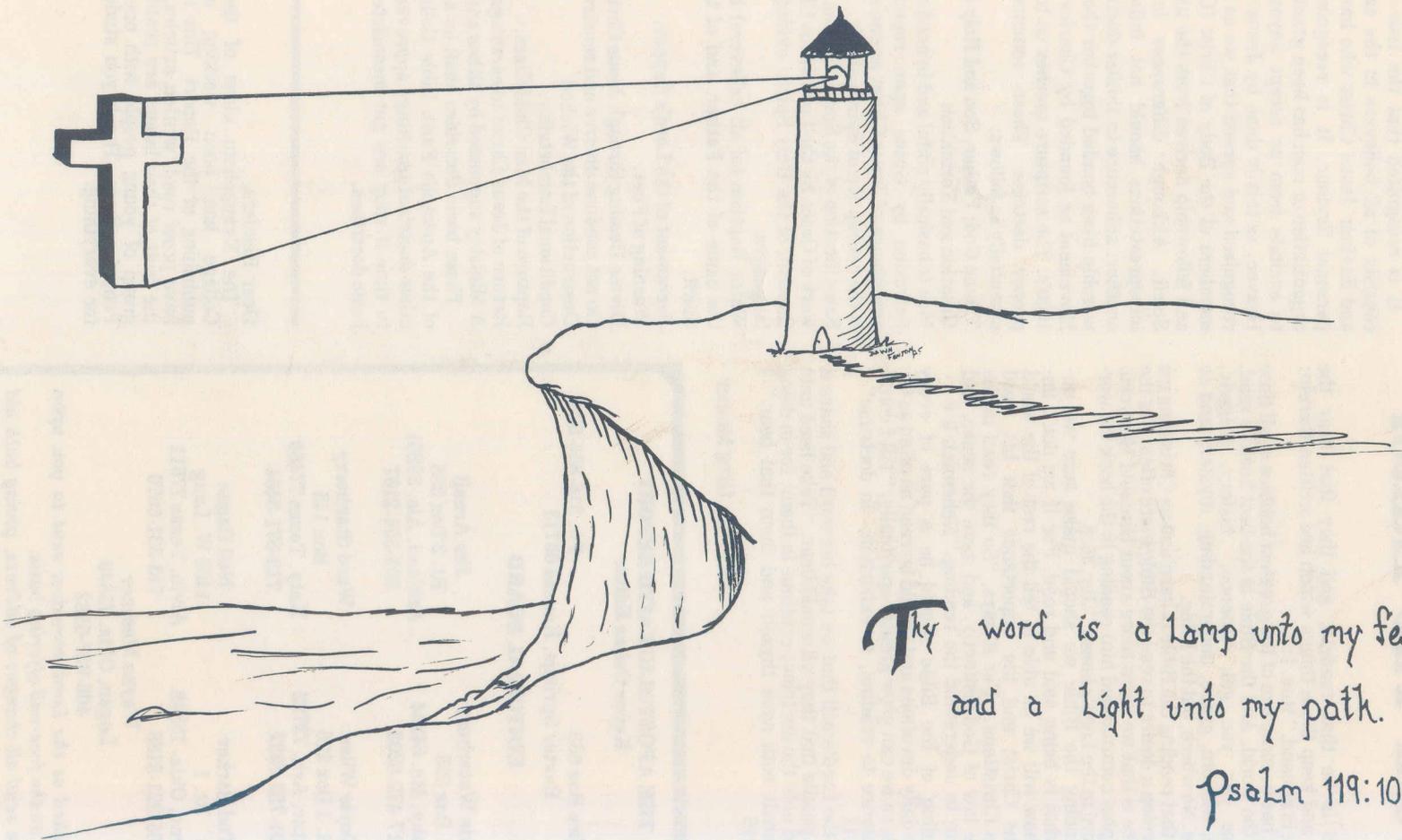


The

# Apostolic Faith

Report



**T**hy word is a lamp unto my feet,  
and a light unto my path.

Psalm 119:105

March, 1985

Vol. 32 No. 3

# From The Editor

"Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for all time is at hand." Rev. 1:3

Reading has become one of the greatest hobbies of all time all across the world. And the Bible is the best book to read. Where else can you get romance, history, tragedy, knowledge, wisdom, grace, understanding, mystery and so much more. No where, but the Bible.

It's true that reading the Bible is hard and as Christians we have to develop a desire to read the Bible more often. For the Lord's desire is that we learn more about Him and His word. "...the prophet commanded him reading in the book the words of the Lord in the Lord's house." Jer. 36:8

When reading the Bible we should make sure we understand what is being said and read. For if we don't understand, how will we be able to tell the rest of the world about Jesus Christ and the importance that his word gives us as Christians. For it says, "So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading." Nehemiah 8:8

The reading of the Bible should be a part of every Christian's daily devotions and should be read as often as the spirit leads, so we can grow greater spiritually. "Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine." I Timothy 4:13

For it is the Lord's will that we take his word and share it among his people that they all would hear. "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt save thyself and them that hear." I Timothy 4:16

Greg Minner

## THE APOSTOLIC FAITH REPORT

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## 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.

Dear Readers,

The Evangelism class of the Apostolic Faith Bible College has been working and learning about the publishing of the Report. This issue is their issue, they have proof read, written articles, answered mail and now the fruit of their labors are reality. They are a wonderful group of young people with one purpose - serving God. Pray for them. Thank you students and Sis. Shari Cook for everything.

Karen Oakes

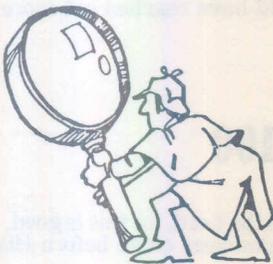
# A F B C NEWS

by Kim Mathis

## Sweetheart Dinner



On Feb. 9 the Bible College held its annual Valentine Banquet. Entertainment for the evening was provided by the Royal Heirs Quartet from Tulsa, OK. A king and queen previously chosen by the students were crowned. The king for the evening was Kelly Stevenson and the queen was Valerie Oakes. The evening as a whole was extremely exceptional. We had many visitors and want to thank each of those that were able to attend.



## Searching for Summer Activity

There are several students here at the Bible College that are interested in working in camps, VBS, etc...this summer. These students have an earnest desire for the Lord to use them. If you or your church would like to get in contact with any of these, you may call or write the Apostolic Faith Bible College, Box 110, Baxter Springs, KS. 66713. The students are Ron Brening, Aurora, CO.; Ron Noble, Balko, OK.; Ginny Stafford, Formosa, KS.; Janis Mathis, Karen Mathis, and Kim Mathis, Hempstead, TX.

APOSTOLIC FAITH  
BIBLE COLLEGE SINGERS  
Hearts In Harmony



APOSTOLIC FAITH BIBLE COLLEGE SINGERS  
— HEARTS IN HARMONY —

### SIDE ONE

On The Jericho Road  
No Other Name  
He Set Me Free  
Thy Word  
I Know He Heard My Prayer  
Fresh Touch of Desire  
Jesus Loves Me  
Rise Again

### SIDE TWO

More Than Wonderful  
I've Been With Jesus  
We Will Serve The Lord  
You'll Receive  
I Will Follow Jesus  
Jesus Never Fails  
Till He Comes

Recorded at American Artists Studio  
P.O. Box 4501, Springfield, MO 65608

AA-1681-CS



On Feb. 7, we had the wonderful privilege of traveling to Springfield, MO. and recording yet another tape for the Bible College. Our desire for this tape is that it would go out and be used as a tool for ministering. We want to give all the thanks to God for allowing us to have this chance to express ourselves in music.

This tape is now available for \$5.00. It features both old and new songs and contains a variety of music. If you would like to have one of these tapes you may purchase one by writing the Apostolic Faith Bible College, Box 110, Baxter Springs, KS. 66713.

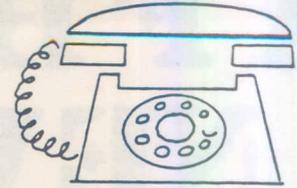
We also have a limited supply of the tape made by the choir in the 1984 Spring term. These tapes also sell for \$5.00

## Helping Hands

Traveling to area churches for Sunday service is a part of the evangelism program for Spring '85. On Feb. 10 and Feb. 24 five teams were sent to minister in local churches in Missouri and Arkansas. This involved the students in areas such as preaching, song leading, teaching Sunday School classes, giving personal testimonies, singing specials and altar work to help prepare them for future ministries in our Apostolic Faith Churches.

On Monday nights we enjoy ministering to the elderly by visiting the local nursing home here in Baxter. It is during these visits we realize how fortunate we are and we praise the Lord for the opportunity to encourage, witness, and talk about the Lord to those in need. "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James 1:27

# REACH OUT AND TOUCH SOMEONE, TODAY!



Ginny Stafford AFBC Ministerial Student

Luke 10:2 "Therefore said he unto them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

All of us know when the time comes to harvest wheat, workers are needed to operate the machinery and drive trucks. For without people willing to labor in the harvest field the wheat would spoil, be eaten by the fowls of the air, and be useless to man. The world is God's harvest field, but there are very few willing to go labor in the fields. Who exactly are the laborers? You and me!

In Matthew 28:19,20, the Great Commission is given to, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

The commission or special assignment was given to go and teach or evangelize to all nations. In looking at the word evangelize another word lies within, angel, meaning messenger. We are all to be messengers of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

All too often we are guilty of saying, "It isn't my job, the preacher gets paid for that. Let him do it." It has been estimated, however, that fewer than 5% of church laity and clergy combined have led anyone to a saving knowledge of God. They appreciate the ones who work in the harvest, just as many of us do, but they don't know the joy of personally participating in the harvest themselves. Evangelism is not a burden: it is a responsibility!

The heart of evangelism is introducing a man, woman, boy or girl to his Creator. It is not our responsibility to judge, condemn, or pick at people, or churches, but to minister Christ and Him crucified. The account of the woman caught in the act of adultery and brought before Jesus, found in John 8:1-11, closes with Jesus saying, "neither do I condemn thee, go and sin no more."

Evangelism is to bear witness to the Gospel with soul aflame and to teach and preach with the express purpose of making disciples of those that hear.

In order to be successful in your evangelistic outreach, there are three major requirements: 1) Motivation, which is to produce an external love for God and want to introduce people to Him, 2) Vision, to see the harvest and be willing to participate in it and pray others will join you and 3) Participants, all Christians, for all have been created in Christ Jesus to do those things that please Him.

Every Christian is called upon to evangelize. We are not all called to go to foreign mission fields, but we can reach out to our neighbors, people in stores, in malls, anywhere there are people we can introduce them to Christ. We are to reach out to all and announce the gospel of Jesus Christ, making sure that as many as possible hear the news of salvation and have the opportunity to receive it.

Evangelism is a spiritual-reproduction. Without the outreach the church would surely die. As the elders of churches pass on and the young people grow up and move away, without any new people brought in there would be nothing. It's like the old shampoo commercial, I told two friends about Christ and they told two friends and so on and so on.

Many times we may feel the nudging of the Holy Spirit to witness to someone and we say, "Not now, perhaps tomorrow. I don't have time." At that moment, however,

that person may be contemplating suicide, murder, shooting up and over-dosing to the point of death, or meet his death in some other way. This person may not have tomorrow and he may not have Jesus Christ. You have a responsibility: if you fail to fulfill it how are you going to feel? After the tragedy you go through the, "if only's". "If only I would have witnessed to him this may not have happened." then there comes the question, "I wonder if he had a chance to get ready." In all actuality they had a lifetime and it was your responsibility to be an aid in directing that life. You shirked your responsibility! All of these are nightmares. But what happens when the day comes and you stand before Christ and he asks you why you didn't do your job?

As you hang your head in shame and try to explain that your pot roast was in the stove burning and you didn't have time to do it right then. It isn't going to matter. You will still be held accountable. Which is more important, the \$10.00 pot roast burning to the point of cremation or the soul that was lost as a result of your negligence?

We live in a country where we have the freedom of religion. We can go to church when we want to, pray when we please, freely read our Bible and carry them in public, we can openly witness to others. But all too often we take it for granted.

There, on the other hand, are other countries where people cherish even a verse of scripture in their possession, knowing if they get caught with it, it could mean arrest or even worse, death. The people in these countries can't worship as they please, they can't pray openly: if they do they could be literally facing death. These people die for a taste of what we can freely feast upon and share with others, the gospel of Jesus Christ.

I wonder: do you have a "vision" in the evangelistic "harvest field"? My vision, and I challenge you to make it yours, is to reach out, to make opportunities to spread the Word. To live a life that speaks just as well as words. For some may never hear what I have to say, but if I live the way God wants, that will speak louder than words. I have heard Brother Jack Cornell say many times, "You may be the only Bible some may ever read" I want to make sure they read it correctly. I want my evangelistic thrust to be pleasing unto God and not say in regret later, "I wish I would have reached out more and to more."

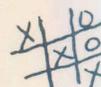
## Psalms 100

- Let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord, for this is good.
- Serve the Lord always with gladness, come before His presence with singing.
- For the Lord is good, He hath made us and not we ourselves: we are His people and the sheep of His pasture.
- Come into His gate with thanksgiving, His courts with praise and be thankful unto Him, bless His name.
- The Lord is so good with mercy everlasting, and His truth shall endure to all generations.

AFBC Student Russell Ball



# The children's Page



## MARY AND THE "LITTLE PIG"

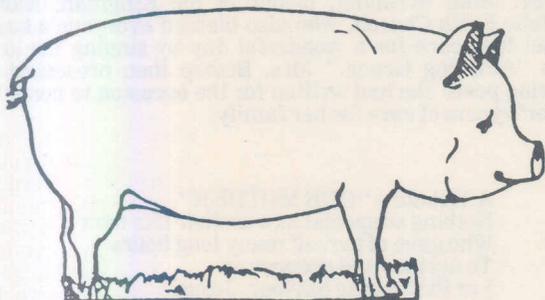
Mary had a little pig and he was white as snow; that is, when he had a bath, as you of course might know. But Mary had an awful time to keep the piggy clean--for he was just the dirtiest pig that one has ever seen.

She would wash him and scrub him until he'd squirm and squeal, as if he wanted her to know it was an unfair deal. Then into the clean back yard he would play from morn 'til night -- that is, unless he happened to sneak out and lose himself from sight. And when she would find him he would be blacker than ever before. Then Mary would get the soap again and scrub the pig some more.

Poor Mary thought and wondered much what she could ever do until she figured out a plan and this she carried through. She took him to a doctor and he put the pig to sleep -- and took his heart right out, but not of course, to keep. He took a little lamb and took his heart out too and put it in the little pig before the piggy knew. And when he did awake he had no more desire -- to waller in the mud again or ever in the mire. But try as hard as he could he never understood how such a pig as once he was could ever be so good.

So you see, we need a new heart too -- just like the little pig. The old one will never do. If you would like to receive a brand new heart this is how you may. Accept God's Son, The Saviour, and let Him in today.

Psalm 51:10 "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."



The idea here is to untangle the puzzle, to find out what memory verse is here.

By Janis Mathis

## THE TWELVE DISCIPLES Tune: Jesus Loves Me

Jesus called them one by one,  
Peter, Andrew, James and John  
Then came Philip, Thomas, too,  
Matthew and Bartholomew.

Chorus:  
Yes, Jesus called them  
Yes, Jesus called them  
Yes, Jesus called them  
And Jesus calls you too.

James, the one they called the less,  
Simon, also Thaddeus,  
Twelfth disciple Judas made,  
Jesus was by him betrayed.

-by...Camden Co., C.E.F.  
New Jersey

Tune: Jesus Loves Me

Christ is coming, this I know  
He Himself has told me so,  
John fourteen, and one, two, three.  
Read yourself and there you'll see.

Chorus:  
Yes, Jesus is coming  
Yes, Jesus is coming  
Yes, Jesus is coming  
The Bible tells me so.

## CHILDREN LEARN BY DOING



1. TBU \_\_\_\_\_
2. ITHWTOU \_\_\_\_\_
3. AFITH \_\_\_\_\_
4. TI \_\_\_\_\_

5. SI \_\_\_\_\_
6. MIPOSISBEL \_\_\_\_\_
7. OT \_\_\_\_\_
8. LPAESE \_\_\_\_\_
9. ODG \_\_\_\_\_

# 80th BIRTHDAY

OPEN HOUSE for Mary C. (Rutkowski) Peacock, held in honor of her 80th birthday, brought many relatives and friends to her home at 506 Wolf Street in Cheney, Kansas, on December 21, 1984, from 4:00 to 7:00 P.M.

Mrs. Peacock's late husband was Rev. John J. Peacock, a faithful minister of the Apostolic Faith Movement, who gave his heart to the Lord and was called to preach when the late Rev. Charles F. Parham (founder of the A.F.M.) brought the Gospel into the Cheney area and surrounding communities. Mary Rutkowski, in turn, was saved in a tent meeting held by Rev. Peacock in Kingman. She and Rev. Peacock were later married.

John Peacock was only seven years of age when he and his mother moved to her parents' home in Cheney following his father's death. There he was raised, making it a homestead and the place of celebration. He and Mrs. Peacock made this their home after their marriage on May 25, 1927, as they continued evangelizing and preaching, playing and singing in tents and homes and churches - anywhere the Lord directed. For many years this home also served as a place of comfort and hospitality for other preachers, evangelists, and friends who held meetings in the Kingman Apostolic Faith Mission, or who were just passing through the area. Here they also reared their family of three sons and two daughters, all of whom accepted the Lord early in life. Except for one son now deceased, all are now working in God's fields, laboring for souls.

Having grown up in Cheney and having found the Lord as the Saviour of his life there, John Peacock was not content to live out his new life there quietly - he preached it! His testimony lives throughout the land. He and Mrs. Peacock also served as cooks at the Apostolic Faith Bible School in Baxter Springs, Kansas, when their family was older. (The children stayed in school in Cheney, except for youngest son, Gerald Dee, who was privileged to go along.) They labored not in vain; for, many souls are preaching today that were saved as they taught the truth of God's Word. Praise the Lord! Bro. John Peacock, since December 31, 1974, now awaits the "meeting in the air" of the saints of God, to rise to be with Jesus!

Having already given her children a treasured heritage, Mary Peacock continues to provide inspiration to them as she gives and cares for all who are around her - and this in spite of a car accident four years ago this April that should have taken her life! Her right side was crushed: her right collar bone and shoulder blade, two small bones in her upper right arm, and some ribs were broken. Her lungs were punctured and she had internal bleeding throughout her body. She had fine glass cuts all over her face and in her hair and glass bits imbedded in her ears. Deep cuts in her legs weren't even sewn closely together for healing, because she wasn't expected to live more than a few hours.

Granddaughters Glenna and Nancy Bishop of Wichita arrived first at the hospital. After signing the necessary papers, one stayed at home by the phone while the other stayed at the hospital to greet daughters Donna Mae Bishop and Virginia Crouse, who were on their way in from out of town, praying all the way. When the daughters arrived and were allowed to see their mother in the emergency intensive care unit, the first words Mrs. Peacock spoke to them were, "God's not through with me yet." At two o'clock in the morning, with their mother hooked up to all kinds of machines and death all around, Donna Mae and Virginia kept praying and watching, listening as she told them of hearing their father preaching, "God heals!" The doctors said she "just couldn't live" and sent her home from the hospital to die. They were certainly surprised when Mary Peacock came walking into their office months later! Mrs. Bishop says of this experience, "Oh, how great!" And through it all, she's alive and living the testimony today! Contact her and see for yourself. Oh! How we give God the glory, as the death angel



was rebuked in Jesus' Name through her faith and the prayers of others that touched the throne of God. Now you know why we made this an extra special occasion. Eighty years and going strong - ALIVE and inspiring, willing 'to spend and be spent', serving where she can with the blessings of the Lord."

NEARLY FOUR YEARS LATER, friends and family gathered to honor this dedicated and loving woman of God. Visitors to the homestead, as well as passersby, were greeted by a huge yellow sign in the yard, with large black letters that read on one side, "IF YOU LOVE MY GRANDMA, HONK", and on the other side, "HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY, GRANDMA." The sign was provided by granddaughter Glenna and friends.

Inside the home, the special occasion began with a prayer by Rev. Mike Brenning, pastor of the Kingman, Kansas Apostolic Faith Church, who also blessed everyone's hearts and set the scene for a wonderful day by singing the great hymn "Amazing Grace." Mrs. Bishop then presented the following poem she had written for the occasion to honor her mother's years of care for her family:

A Tribute - "OUR MOTHER"  
 Nothing so special as a mother like ours  
 Who gave of herself many long hours  
 To nurture and prepare us  
 For the coming Saviour, Jesus.  
 Let us press on with courage anew  
 Show the strength received, renew  
 Guiding, headed for the goal  
 God prepared for our soul  
 In the future, be no end  
 To eternity, the soul send  
 When in Christ we have our being  
 Home, hands, head, heart - God serving.  
 -Donna Mae Peacock Bishop

Afterwards, cake and punch were served throughout the afternoon and early evening, while an enjoyable variety of gospel hymns and music were presented: A trio of dear friends, including Mrs. Byron Opdyck, Mrs. John Wimer, and Mrs. Alvin Watkins, accompanied by Mrs. Bishop, brought many good recollections as they sang "Precious Memories", "Footprints of Jesus", and "When I Get to the End of the Way." (The latter song was a special favorite of the honoree.) Granddaughters Glenna and Christine Bishop and Nancy (Bishop) Plute ministered through a medley built around the song "The blood Will Never Lose It's Power." Glenna and Christine then made the season come to life anew

with their duet rendition of "Worship the King." Next, Mrs. Bishop joined brother-in-law and sister Archie and Virginia Crouse in reviving the message of "The Man of Galilee." (This trio was blessed for many years as they sang for God's glory in revivals and special services.) Next, granddaughter Norma (Crouse) Adams and her husband Paul sang "Is It Not Enough for Thee?", a song composed by Mrs. Adams' father while serving his country in a defense plant during WWII. Mr. Crouse wrote the song in response to a letter he had received from Rev. John Peacock, containing the theme along with some suggestions and a request that a song be written. After the war, copies were made of this beautiful song about what Jesus did for all, challenging us to serve our Maker. Mrs. Peacock still has a number of extra copies of the song available. The blessing of music was concluded by Euteva Armstrong (Mrs. Leroy) Hall and Mrs. Bishop as they sang duets of "Blessed Redeemer" - another song composed by Mr. Crouse - and "I'm So Glad He Lives." Mr. Crouse accompanied both final songs. According to Mrs. Bishop, the songwriter's words, "We're together again, just praising the Lord", would best describe the focus during these special hours of giving glory to God.

A BEAUTIFUL, THREE-TIERED CAKE, decorated with pink and burgundy rosebuds, was made for the occasion by the honoree's sister, Ella (Mrs. Roy) Day of Kingman. Mrs. Day also brought pink and burgundy carnations, some of which she had made into a corsage accented with pink ribbon. The other carnations were placed in tall vases. Granddaughter Glenna, a talented, mission-minded servant of God, made pink and burgundy, yellow and blue mints in multi-shapes and sizes to accent the table decor. The lovely cake, mints, and dark red punch were served from a table laid with a white heirloom table cloth crocheted in a pineapple design, made by Mrs. Bishop's mother-in-law, Etta M. Bishop of Buffalo, Oklahoma.

Granddaughter Norma (Crouse) Adams, Nancy (Bishop) Plute, Glenna and Christine Bishop, and Cynthia Peacock were given capable and willing assistance in the cutting and serving by another sister of the honoree, Eva (Mrs. Oakley) Rodman of Cheney, as well as by Mrs. Day, Mrs. Opdyck, and Mrs. Wimmer. Mrs. Bishop says, "A great time was had by everyone!"

Children of Mrs. Peacock who attended included: Donna Mae Bishop and husband, Rev. Marion Bishop of Cheney; Virginia Crouse and husband, Mr. Archie Crouse, of Wichita Falls, Texas; Gerald Dee Peacock of Cheney. Another son, Glenn Arthur Peacock, and his wife LaNeve, of Metairie, Louisiana, were unable to attend.

Grandchildren present included: Norma (Crouse) Adams and husband, Mr. Paul Adams, of Hobbs, New Mexico; Christine Bishop, of Fort Hays State university, Hays, Kansas; Glenna Bishop, of Wichita, Kansas; Stephen Bishop of Cheney; Cynthia, Gerald Dee, Jr., and Veronica Peacock, all of Cheney; Nancy (Bishop) Plute and husband, Mr. Rodney Plute, of Wichita, Kansas.

Great-grandchildren in attendance included: Timothy, Wesley and Melissa Adams, of Hobbs, New Mexico; Christine Crouse and Kevin Lucier, of Wichita Falls, Texas; Ryan Neal Plute, of Wichita, Kansas (at 9 1/4 months, the youngest present). Thirteen other grandchildren and ten other great-grandchildren were unable to be present.

Also present were a niece, Vera Johnson, and her young granddaughter Emily, as well as many other friends from other areas, including Rev. Brenning's wife and two young sons, who helped make the day complete.

Numerous messages were received via telephone, letters and cards, all of which were enjoyed and appreciated by Mrs. Peacock. Mrs. Bishop expressed regret at not having spread the information about this event earlier, and thanks everyone for their understanding. She closes her report by saying: "See you in heaven, if not on this earth. Blessings in Christ's service. All the family of Mary C. Peacock expresses their love for you sharing with us. Laborers together for souls. - Mrs. Marion L. Bishop.

Mrs. Peacock's mailing address: Mary C. Peacock Box 38, Cheney, KS.

## AFBC Student Testimony

As Bro. Jack Cornell said one time, "Some people need the sight of a belt, and others need the belt to be used on them."

I guess God had gotten tired of showing me the belt. So He had to use one on me to get my attention. Before I was ready to accept that I needed to focus on the LORD more, I wasn't doing a very good job of it. So, I got slapped in the face.

In October I had been praying that the LORD would take my mom out of her misery or heal her completely. I had been praying this for about two weeks. She was ready to go, she had lived a good life for the LORD. She had been a good servant also.

I don't guess I had been focusing on anything except the LORD. Then when my mom died I had mixed emotions about it. I was sad because she was gone then I was PRAISING GOD because He answered prayer.

In I Cor. 15:54 it tells us "So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP IN VICTORY." I guess I needed the belt used on me. PRAISE GOD. I've gotten my priorities straight.

Rena Gibbs, daughter of Doyal Gibbs and the late Marva Jo Turner Gibbs.

## Hand in Hand with Jesus

Valerie Oakes

"HAND IN HAND WITH JESUS"

-Valerie Oakes

Once from my poor sin-sick soul,  
Christ did every burden roll,  
Now I walk redeemed and whole,  
Hand in Hand with Jesus.  
Hand in Hand we walk each day,  
Hand in Hand along the way,  
Walking thus I cannot stray,  
Hand in Hand with Jesus.

Rev. Johnson Oatman Jr.

"Hand in Hand with Jesus." I'm sure we've all been guilty of singing this song without really realizing what we are singing. It's a beautiful song. Think about it, walking Hand in Hand with Jesus. When I think of walking hand in hand with someone, I think of a close friend. I think of someone I can talk to, share with, or just even be silent with. I think of someone I can always depend on in the ups and downs of life. I think of someone who cheers me when I'm sad, wipes a tear from my eye when I cry. I think of someone who is there when I'm feeling lonely, depressed, or just needing a friend. I think of Jesus. There's no friend so precious as Jesus. There's no one more understanding, more caring or more loving than Jesus. In Proverbs 18:24 we read, "and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." Truly, Jesus is that friend. If you are walking hand in hand with Jesus, you will find that even with its complications, life can be enriching and fulfilling. But, if you aren't walking hand in hand with Jesus, it can be filled with emptiness and sadness. For those who are walking hand in hand with Jesus, please hold tight. You can't afford to lose such a valuable friend, and you'll never make it without him. For those who aren't walking hand in hand with Jesus, you can. Jesus is standing there, with a hand reaching out to you if only you'll accept his offer. You won't lose if you take his hand. He will always be there for you and he will never leave you or forsake you. Give it a try! Walking hand in hand with Jesus is truly wonderful!

Hand in Hand we walk each day,  
Hand in Hand along the way,  
Walking thus I cannot stray,  
Hand in Hand with Jesus.

# MARCH

## Galena, Kansas

Greetings from Galena, Kansas!

God is still being good to our church families. We enjoyed a fellowship supper in January of chili, soup, and pie. You know, God wants his children to meet and enjoy each other in fellowship. So often we get too busy to even see our fellow Christians and know their needs. We must not be selfish and live only for our self and our families, love thy brother and sister in the Lord. The weather has put a damper on our attendance but we still love our Lord. Our winter has been bad, but Praise the Lord our area has been better. We praise the Lord for protecting our area, because a lot of cities have been real bad. If we look hard enough we can always find something to be thankful for, Praise the Lord! We still have a lot of sickness, but in time God will bless in healing our families. We know God still rules and reigns over us and the weather.

I John 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin.

I John 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

I John 4:8 He that loveth not, knoweth not God, for God is love.

I John 4:11 Beloved if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.

I John 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be savior of the world.

Pray for our church that God will always have his way in each of our lives.

Our prayer list: Mrs. Florene Munson, Mr. & Mrs. Porter D. Rowland, Ruth Brown, Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Cooper, May Rowland, Mrs. Ruth Whitely, Mrs. Margaret Rogers.

We welcome our Bro. & Sis. in the Lord to come by and visit us.

Pastor Howard Whitely  
Reporter May Rowland

## Alvin, Texas

Greetings from all of us in the Alvin church. The Apostolic Faith Report is a special blessing to us, especially as we become more and more isolated from the other churches of our faith. Touching each other whether by handshake, voice, or the phone, or by letter is a very necessary part of our Christian fellowship. Reports and testimonies from the Bible College students, faculty and news letters from other churches, helps us to know we are still part of the big family of God.

The cold weather and an unusual amount of sickness has been discouraging at times, since it does take its toll on our attendance - but, spring is coming!

Our pastor and wife, Bro. and Sis. Neil Ragan, went on a much needed vacation. They are so faithful to visit and pray for the sick.

Bro. and Sis. Roland Busch were here for both services, Sun. Feb. 3. They are always a real blessing to the church.

Bro. and Sis. Doc Methvin held a revival here which began on Feb. 17. Please keep us in your prayers.

We are looking forward to a visit from the Bible College choir in the near future.

God bless you,  
Delilah Stanberry - reporter  
Neil Ragan - pastor

## HAPPY AND FREE



Ollie L. Kinser Ministries announces the release of a new album through Gusto Records, Inc. of Nashville, Tennessee. This is the first album recorded by Ollie and Anna Kinser although they have plans for others in the future. Several of the songs on this album were written by Anna. It is our earnest prayer that the message of this album will bring blessings to all who hear it. We have asked God to make it a tool to save the lost, heal the sick, and minister to the needy in every way.

Record albums or cassettes are \$8.00 each. Order from Ollie Kinser, Box 133, Hardesty, Oklahoma 73944 or phone 405-888-4555.



### BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

The Cooleys, Haskell and JoLee, are the proud parents of a baby daughter named Camissa Breeann. Camissa was born January 14. She weighed in at 6 lbs. 7(1/4) ozs. Camissa is already learning to sing. She does most of her singing at about 3 a.m. Oh, yes, her brother, Cason, is also mighty proud of his sister. The Cooleys sing throughout the United States and Canada. They will resume touring in March. The Cooleys are from Wichita, Kansas.

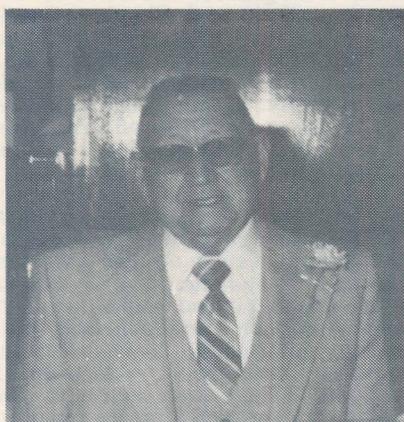
## The Living Lord's Supper presented by Apostolic Faith Bible College Students

on April 5, 1985  
7:30 p.m.

at the  
Apostolic Faith Church  
10th & Linclon  
Baxter Springs, Kansas

Directed by Mr. & Mrs. Sam Ames

**Obituary of  
Houston  
Cook**



Houston Carson Cook passed away at approximately 10:30 p.m. Thursday night, February 7, 1985 after an illness.

He was born July 26, 1911 near Sweetwater, Missouri and lived all his life in Granby.

He was united in marriage with Geneva Allman November 9, 1930. To this union was born three daughters.

He accepted the Lord as his Saviour in Colorado in 1931, and was a member of the Gospel Tabernacle in Granby. He served on the church board for more than 40 years, and was still a member of the board. He dedicated his life in service to the Lord and his faithfulness was an inspiration to all who came in contact with him. His Christian witness reached out to many people in the community, and the Apostolic Faith movement, and Bible College, through his works, and through the ministry of his daughters.

He is survived by his wife, Geneva; his three daughters, Chloe Suman, Joplin, Mo.; Faye Neff, Neosho, MO.; Shari Cook, Baxter Springs, Kansas; five grandchildren: Diana McCleary, Granby, MO.; Vicky Kahl, Wakefield, Nebraska; Scott Lawson, with the United States Marines in Okinawa, Tyrone and Teresa Suman, Joplin, MO.; three great grandchildren, and one sister, Bertha Tuggle, Neosho, MO.

Memorial services were held at the Gospel Tabernacle in Granby, Mo. on Sunday, February 10, 1985, with Rev. Edwin Waterbury, Rev. Otto Busch, and Rev. Onal Nunn officiating. Music was provided by a volunteer choir with Naomi Busch at the organ. "Blessed Assurance" was sung by the entire congregation and the choir sang "No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus" and "Because he Lives". Pallbearers were Floyd Loving, Stan Patterson, and Board Members: Jerry Patterson, Roger Ross, Melvin Shank, and William Beaver. The following poem was written by Patsy Waterbury in memory of Bro. Houston.

Resurrected in His likeness  
In the twinkling of an eye,  
Changed forever to be like Him,  
Blessed Hope from God on high.  
To be absent from the body  
To be present with the Lord,  
Flesh and blood cannot inherit  
All the wonders of God's World.  
To stand transformed before His glory,  
Transported on that day,  
Past every mountain trial of sorrow,  
Past every Valley filled with pain,  
To gaze upon the Courts of Heaven,  
To see at last the Saviour's face,  
This the climax of a Lifetime  
Based on God's Amazing Grace.

by Patsy Waterbury

**Fern Barker**

Fern Barker went to be with the Lord, January 23, 1985. Officiating the services were Haroll Waterbury, Marcus Adair, and M.D. Methvin.

Glendola Fern was born near Topeka, Kansas, August 6, 1894 to Mort and Eva Groendyke. Her mother recieved the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in services held in Topeka by Charles F. Parham, founder of the Apostolic Faith Movement.

She moved with her parents, two brothers, and three sisters to Beaver County, Oklahoma in April 1902, and they settled on Clear Creek. This homestead remains in Fern's family.

In 1918 she went to Washington, D. C. to work for the government. She had the privilege of seeing President Woodrow Wilson and she saw General John J. Pershing lead the parade of the famous 1st Division down Pennsylvania Avenue. She returned to Beaver County at Christmas 1919.

On May 5th, 1920 she was married to Ermal Barker at the Courthouse in Beaver. Fern was a homemaker, and five children were born to this union - Richard, Winston, Walter, Roberta, and Leslie. From the day they were married, Fern and Ermal attended Sunday School and Church, first at Bush Chapel, then later at the Elmwood School House, the Capital View Church, and other churches in this area.

Fern was preceeded in death by Leslie in 1933 and Ermal in 1980.

After Ermal's death, she moved to Alvin, Texas and made her home with Roberta.

Survivors are Richard and Esther of Katy, Texas; Winston of Amarillo; Walt and Molene of Durant, Oklahoma; Roberta Methvin of Alvin, Texas; twelve grandchildren, nineteen great grandchildren, one brother, Chester Groendyke of Long Beach, California; one sister, Laura Ross of Corning, California, and a host of other relatives and friends.

**BOOKS  
NOW AVAILABLE**

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

Order Now! from the  
Apostolic Faith Report  
Box 653  
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**Deadline!**

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

## Willing to Live Honestly

**“Pray for us, for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.”**

As I was taking my walk to the Post Office, on the way home the Lord gave me these thoughts, this precious scripture given by the great Apostle Paul (Heb. 13:18) “Pray for us, for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.” Willing to live honestly, these are powerful words and have such sacred meaning. How sad to say that all who profess to be Christians are not willing to live honestly, some if by law and documents that say thus and thus and to their profit and gain they are willing to live honestly. But turn this around and if it will cost them to live honestly then they are not willing to live honestly because it costs, not willing to pay the price. One morning on my way home on my morning walk, I had gone about one quarter of a mile when the Lord spoke to me. While at the store, I went to one of the checkout stands and asked the checker if she had two fifty cent pieces that she would exchange for a dollar bill. She said, “I only have one fifty cent piece.” After I left I couldn’t remember giving her the dollar bill so I went back to the checker and asked her if she was the one I asked to exchange two fifty cent pieces for a dollar bill. She said, “Yes” and I said, “I can’t remember giving you the dollar bill.” She said “You gave me the change for the fifty cent piece. “Some may say this is too humiliating to do such as I did but if we are willing to live honestly we will be glad to do it as unto the Lord and keep the record clear, and what a good feeling of conscience toward God and man. Thanks be to God for his grace to do these things. God’s ways are always best. Another scripture I would like to use is Luke 8:15: Jesus’ parable of the sower, verse 15: “But that on the good ground are they, (which is an honest and good heart) having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.” Let me call your attention to hearing the word and keeping it and also bringing forth fruit with patience. It is said, again, to say that all that profess to be Christians do not have an honest and good heart. This doesn’t mean that we never make a mistake or do something not pleasing to the Lord, but it does mean when the Lord reproves us of wrong, if we are willing to live honestly that we will be glad to do and obey his precious will in all things, and thank God for his precious help in this, to go on living honestly before the Lord and man. The wrong had better be taken care of in this life, it will be too late at judgment; we will be like the man that didn’t have on the wedding garment, we will be speechless. Thank God His will is always best for us all. It has cost me many dollars to be willing to live honestly but I wouldn’t want to live any other way. One time it cost me \$2,000. through a professional crook and a swindler to practice this scripture, willing to live honestly. I was so depressed and down over this that I couldn’t sleep or have any peace of mind. I was desperately and earnestly praying about this and the Lord gave me a scripture in Psalms 37:7. Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked services to pass. This beautiful scripture meant so much to me. The Lord gave me faith to believe him and stand upon his word. I went to bed that night, had the best rest, never did I worry about this any more. Thanks be to God, it does pay to live honestly. God’s approval means more to me than the riches of the world. Praise his great name.

Another time, it cost me \$10,000.00 to be willing to live honestly. The \$10,000.00 plus much interest, also \$700.00 of personal money. But praise the Lord it has been worth it to be willing to live honestly. If I could live it all over again, I would want to live honestly. Thanks be to God who has given me good victory over all these hard and fiery trials. It takes

much of the grace of God to live out this scripture of willing to live honestly in trials like these, but I can testify that it has been worth it all. It has drawn me closer to the Lord so thanks be to God for his love and grace to me. I love him even more. If I could live it all over again, I would want to be willing to live honestly. It pays great dividends but only through his grace can we do this. Paul said, I count all things that was gain to me but dung and loss that I might win Christ. This is the most important thing to all of us, that we win Christ. It may cost us friends and even close relatives to be willing to live honestly but it can be done through his grace. some don’t want you to preach “willing to love honestly,” because they would have to clean up their lives but it is better to hear it now than at Judgment Day. I have said many times in my preaching that if God would give me his approval on my life and his smile that you could have all the rest. A thought that is of great importance to me is Romans 12:17: “Recompence to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.” I have tried to practice this scripture in dealing with my fellow men. I have let people take advantage of me many times to live this scripture and to tell the truth, if I didn’t get as good a deal for myself, God made it come back in some other way. So, stay honest and truthful, it will mean much when we stand to give an account to God. It doesn’t pay to be dishonest, it will catch up with you sooner or later. We have an example of dishonesty with Judas Iscariot who betrayed the Lord through dishonesty and sold the Lord for thirty pieces of silver. Matthew 27:3-4, verse 3: “Then Judas which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priest and elders, saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed innocent blood. And they said, what is that to us? See thou to that.” Here we see how that Judas was caught up with his betrayal and sin. I don’t believe Judas repented from the heart, but was sorry that sin had caught up with him. He was so miserable that he went and hanged himself. Sin and dishonesty has to be paid for and the cost is great. So, let us get sin and dishonesty straightened out and under the precious blood, for if we wait until judgment it will be too late. I Timothy 5:24, Some men’s sins are open before hand going before to judgment and some men they follow after. It is a privilege in this scripture to send our sins on to judgment through true repentance to God and man, and have them blotted out and covered with the blood of Christ. Other men’s will follow them to judgment and they will stand condemned to death I Peter 2:12, having your conversation honest among the gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your works, which they behold, glorify God in the day of visitation. There is a lot said about conversation in the Bible. So, let us be very careful about our conversation. We will be judged by our conversation. Luke 19:20-22. Verse 20: “Another came saying, Lord behold here is thy pound, which I have kept laid up in a napkin.”

Verse 21: I feared thee because thou art an austere man: thou takest up that thou hast not sown, and reapest that thou didst not sow. Verse 22: he (Jesus) said unto him, out of thine own mouth will I judge thee, thou wicked servant. Thou knewest that I was an austere man, taking up that I laid not down, and reaping that I did not sow. This man knew but was not a doer. So many will be guilty of knowing and not doing. This is very serious so beware and be careful. I try to make sin appear as dangerous as I can. My prayer is that this will be a blessing to all who read it.

I want to conclude with the 15th Psalm. This will be what will be required of us to make it in. 1st verse: Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? Who shall dwell in thy holy hill? The answer is in verse 2: He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. Verse 3: He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbor, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbor. Verse 4: In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. Verse 5: He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved. The Lord allowed me to be tested while I was writing this message.

Praise his sweet name. I got a bill for \$30.00 which I didn't feel I really owed but to practice what I preached in this message, I mailed the amount and will go on preaching, willing to live honestly. Praise the Lord, he has been so good to me, I love him even more. In conclusion of this message, these words come to me and I believe they were given of the Lord, that if God would grant me one choice and it would be final and it would determine my faith and testing - if the Lord would make it possible for me to have all the riches of the world, money so that I could see any part of the world that I desired and not withhold any pleasure of sin that I would desire, the best home that money could buy, the best car that money could buy, nothing withheld, money that would last as long as I live, and all would be at my finger tips - but one choice and it would be final, and I could have Jesus and nothing the world had to offer. Most gladly I would choose Jesus that the power of Christ might rest upon me. Matthew 5:40-42, verse 40: "If any man will sue thee at law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also." Verse 41: "And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain."

Verse 42: Give to him that asketh of thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away. I think I am learning something of great value of the second mile Christian. Praise the Lord. Jude 24 and 25. Verse 24: Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, (verse 25) To the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen. Just a word on willing to live honestly, it means making Jesus Lord of our will and all that we have fully surrendered to him, Jesus.

James Hosler  
16890 Greentree Blve.  
Victorville, Ca., 92392

### Thy Will Be Done

Do you ever hear someone praying and asking God why things are so bad? Well, I have—myself! I have often prayed and when I didn't get an immediate answer, I began to question, "Why?"

In the Lord's prayer, as in Matt. 6:9-13, verse ten states, "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven." I began to consider these words! Of course, that is the answer. I have been praying all wrong. I need to consider what I am praying for. Here are some interesting points made by Brenda Short.

Do not ask for fulfillment in all your life,

But ask for courage to endure.

Do not ask for fulfillment in all your life,

But for patience to accept frustration.

Do not ask for perfection in all you do,

But for the wisdom not to repeat mistakes.

And finally, do not ask for more,

Before saying, "Thank you",

For what you have already received.

Bill Carter  
AFBC Student

### You Are A Promise

You are a promise! You are a promise to be anything God wants you to be.

God has been dealing with me on what I am supposed to do with my life. Sometimes I think, "But Lord, I can't do that, that is too hard for me." He will not make anything too hard though.

With God, you can do anything He wants you to do, or you can be anything He wants you to be, all because you are His promise.

Kayla Doll  
AFBC Student

### COUNTING THE CHANGE

Provide things honest in the sight of all men.

Romans 12:17

The Christian is constantly being observed by the world, That's why a believer's testimony for Christ may be severely damaged by dishonesty in even the smallest matter. The following story shows how closely God's people are being watched: A young Christian businessman from Nashville was invited to speak at a local church. He chose for his text, "Thou shalt not steal," and he spoke unswervingly on the topic. The next morning he boarded a city bus for the ride to work. He handed a dollar bill to the driver and received some change, which he counted as he proceeded down the aisle of the bus. Before he reached his seat, he realized he had been given a dime too much. His first thought was that the transit company would never miss it but deep inside he knew he should return it. So he went back to the driver and said, "You gave me too much change, sir." To the businessman's amazement, the driver replied, "I know, a dime too much. I gave it to you on purpose. Then I watched you in my mirror as you counted your change. You see, I heard you speak yesterday, and if you had kept the dime, I would have had no confidence in what you said."

If we consider that bus driver's dime an insignificant matter, we need to meditate carefully on this Scripture text and others like it. Paul said in 2 Corinthians 4:2 that we should renounce "the hidden things of dishonesty,...commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God." Let's never forget that people are watching us "count the change," and so is God.

*Uphold me in the common strife,*

*Give me the grace to work and plan,*

*And in the marketplace of life,*

*Lord, help me be an honest man.*

-Anon.

**No one knows of your honesty  
unless you give out some samples.**

## ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Wed. May 8, 1985  
9:00 a.m.  
Apostolic Faith Bible  
College

All Advisory Board Members and Pastors are urged to attend. At least one representative from each church needs to attend this meeting.

## COMMAND OR REQUEST..

Is it a commandment or a request that we study the word of God? We often read our Bible and say we are studying. The word study actually means seeking, searching, deriving a conclusion to material read. In II Tim 2:14 & 15 Paul tells us, after telling Timothy to be a partaker of Christ and the Gospel, "Of these things put them in remembrance, charging them before the Lord that they strive not about words to no profit, but to the subverting (or overturning) of the hearers." And then he goes on to tell Timothy how to accomplish this overturning of lives: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Through the Bible there are many scriptures encouraging us to gain knowledge of the will and way of the life of Christ and our lives also.

In our life we often have questions of how we should live & walk. In Philippians 1:27 Paul says, "Only let your conversation(walk)be as it becometh the gospel of Christ:" Many questions arise, such as, do we know why we live the way we do? In Deuteronomy 17: 19 Moses says "read there in all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:" Moses clearly states that we can know why we live the way we do by the word of God. This thought is also carried out by the scripture in Hebrews 4: 12 "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Another question is, ARE YOU SURE OF THE WORD OF GOD?

Isaiah 34: 16 says, "Seek ye out of the book of the Lord, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it hath commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them." He is saying that the Word of God is fail proof. It is what it is, as God is "I am what I am." God has by inspiration given His word to us that we may stand assured that the faith we are standing on is not in vain, but is endowed with power.

In the Bible it clearly states that great men such as Peter, Paul, and John the Beloved were martyrs, deliverers of the testimony of Jesus Christ in their lives. Do we, as believers know the testimony of Jesus Christ? John 5:38 & 39 reads, "And ye have not his word abiding in you: for whom he hath sent, him ye believe not. Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." Only through the study, deriving, or searching of the scriptures can we truly know the testimony of Jesus Christ. Christ has sent a comforter, to testify of Him, but in many cases the will of God is shown in the scripture. Jesus said to "Search the scriptures" and by knowing His word and letting that word be in your heart, you will know the testimony of Jesus Christ. John also says in John 15:7 "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you."

ARE WE ABLE TO DISCERN THE THINGS WHICH MEN TELL US? Acts 17:11 "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." We should have an open mind to God's word, but we are commanded to search so we will not be overcome by false prophets as Christ spoke of in Matthew 24:4 & 5: "Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many." In our time of daily devotions and study, do we just read and skim or do we really study? Can we discern the true and false teaching of men, or do we only have a skin deep knowledge of the truth where men could penetrate our skin to deceive us? For "out of the abun-

dance of the heart the mouth speaketh." We must be like those of Berea and let the "Word of God be alive in our hearts and know those things which be so" (or true).

DO WE KNOW OF THE HOPE THAT WE HAVE IN CHRIST? I Peter 3:15 "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:" Peter said we must be accountable to tell every man of our hope in Jesus Christ, and we have already defined that through searching the scripture we can know the testimony of Jesus Christ because we carry that testimony within us. In Romans 15:4 we read "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures have hope." Paul encourages us that the word of God was written for our benefit that we need not have a blind hope, but we can know through the word that our hope is in Christ Jesus, and that we can have patience and comfort as we study the word. God's word brings patience and comfort to our hearts.

In conclusion, we read Psalms 119:1 "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." In this scripture we note that, yes, if we know the truth of the word, live by the word, and plant the word in our heart, that we will not sin against God, But I would like to ask you if we can go a step further and say that we must hide the word, study the word, implant it in our hearts to know the testimony of Christ to know why we live as we do, to have the assurance of the infallibility of God's word, to have the hope, to check men, because God clearly gives it as a command: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God." II Tim 2:15

AFBC Student  
Ron Brening



### THE BIBLE

Do we know all it contains? This short, but wonderful description is printed in the front of the Gideon Testaments:

The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom on sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are Holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true and its discussions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be saved, and practice it to be Holy.

It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christians charter. Here paradise is restored, Heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed.

Christ is its grand subject, our good design, and the glory of God its end.

It should fill the memory, rule the earth, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently and prayerfully.

It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at the Judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.

# A PROPHECY STUDY

## Ephesus and Smyrna: Churches of Asia

The book of Revelation of Jesus Christ, given to him by God, is no longer a hidden book; a book to be misunderstood. The word, "Revelation" means to reveal or unveil and is derived from the greek word "Apocalipsis."

As stated in the second and third chapters of Revelation, John the Revelator addresses the seven churches of Asia: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea. These were indeed literal churches of Asia, but they also represent seven church ages. Each church name has a meaning, and, not by coincidence, that meaning associates with that particular church age.

Due to lack of space, only the churches of Ephesus and Smyrna shall be discussed here.

The Church of Ephesus—The Lord knew of their good works, their labor, and patience of the church. He also knew of their trying of false apostles and their perseverance for His name's sake.

Although commended for their service, the Lord stated that He had, "...somewhat against thee, because thou hast lost thy first love." Chap. 2, V. 4. The people had not completely forgotten Christ, but their zeal and enthusiasm had diminished. They did well with good works but somehow their love for God ceased.

The Lord warned the people of the church to, "Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do thy first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent." Rev. 2:5

The church age of Ephesus starts from approximately 30 A.D. extending to about 170 A.D. The word, "Ephesus" means "permitted, to relax, permission".

It seems that most of today's churches have "relaxed" and "given permission" to conform with the world - a society without God. Have we lost our first convictions of the true meaning of Christianity? Churches of today may very well do good works for Christ, but in reality, not really loving Christ as one should. Good works are insufficient for salvation!

Christians must serve the Lord in sincerity and in truth. Love for Christ must come first before anything for without Christ, all is vain. "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." John 15:4,5. Without love, all is vain. "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." I Cor. 13:1-3.

Because Christ loved us, He became the propitiation for our sins. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life." Rom. 5:8,10.

The Bible also states, "But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate." Revelations Chap. 2, V. 6. The doctrine of the Nicolaitanes desired a priesthood to be placed over the people. There is no need of that now! Christians need no priest or intercessor for prayers between God and His people. Since Jesus Christ died on the cross, shedding His blood, all Christians can approach the throne of grace boldly! "Now where remission of these is,

there is no more offering for sin. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus." Hebrews 10:18,19.

A broken and contrite heart, a faith that doesn't waver, and a humble heart is what the Lord desires of His true people.

Are we to ignore the fallen example of the church of Ephesus? It may be true that the church of today is serving the Lord correctly in many aspects, but unless we Christians strive for perfection in the eyes of God, all labor is in vain. Renew your "first love" for Christ. To the overcoming Christian, the Lord has promised the tree of life in the midst of the paradise of God.

## SMYRNA

The Church of Smyrna—The approximate time period for this church age is from 170 A.D. to 312 A.D. The name Smyrna means "bitter", referring to the bitter persecution of the church.

The church of Smyrna exemplified good works and withstood the tribulation because they were rich in faith, although poor materially.

The Lord knew of the hypocrisy of the Jews-Jews pretending to be Godly but actually worshipping satan. The true Christians of the church were not to worry in spite of all the iniquity, but that some of them would be cast into prison for a complete trial of their faith. To those who are faithful unto death-willing to die for Christ, to him will be given a CROWN OF LIFE! The overcoming Christian is promised not to be hurt of the second death.

The church suffered no rebuke for suffering for Christ. Christians are going to suffer for His name and should rejoice in tribulation.

"And nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake." Phil 1: 28, 29.

Paul suffered many hardships, but kept pressing onward because he knew the end result; he knew that the short sufferings here on earth cannot compare to Heaven's riches. "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him." James 1:12.

We are to "count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; knowing this, that the trying of your faith-worketh patience." James 1: 2,3.

God has a purpose in everything. Christians need to increase in patience and meekness, but not to the extent of being ashamed of the Gospel of Christ. The last days are approaching. Some Christians suffer only mild persecution, if any, in this present day.

What a piteful position this nation is going to be in when the antichrist and the spirit of antichrist, which already reigns today in many people, enters on a full-fledged war against God and His people! Take heed while the door of grace is still open! This blessed nation, given to us by God, is being destroyed due to ignorance, immorality, idolatry-abounding iniquity!

Homosexuality, fornication, adultery-perversions once hidden are now exposed freely to a lustful world; open to all without shame! Things once held sacred are being mocked on television, radio, and the movie screen. Television ministers are accused of being "moneygrabbers", and some are! Pornography is now flaunted in front of children of younger ages every day! The pornography trash lines the shelves in an ever-increasing number of places and yet, we hear the cry for "morality" from people not willing to do anything!

Is this pleasing to God? As great as God has allowed this country to advance and prosper, a synonym for American seems to be rebellion! Praise God for the non-conforming, God-fearing Americans!

A darker day is coming! Watch for tribulation and endure. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13.

AFBC Student Ron Noble



# THE APOSTOLIC FAITH

## “It’s Beginning”

The Life of Charles F. Parham  
—Vanessa Oakes

As I have been raised in a Christian home and have attended an Apostolic Faith Church all my life, I have always wondered how and why our movement started and how it came to be. After reading this book, I have been introduced to the history of our movement and its founder—Charles Fox Parham.

Charles F. Parham was born June 4, 1873, in Muscatine, Iowa. When Charles was five the family moved to Cheney, Kansas and he made his home in Kansas for the rest of his life. When Charles was twelve years old his mother died, and as she was on her death bed, he vowed to God and her that he would someday see her in Heaven. However, this wasn't the real experience of salvation he received. He attended a revival that same year. The evangelist said the revival would close if someone didn't make a move, so Charles decided he would. But he still wasn't completely satisfied, for it seemed to him to just be a public confession. On the way home that night he felt the strong conviction from the Holy Spirit to really live a dedicated Christian life. He knew this was for him, though he had never been raised in church. He really gave his heart to the Lord there and worked teaching and doing various jobs in church.

Charles attended the Southwestern Kansas College and there he backslid. He didn't want to obey the call of God to be a minister, so instead, he studied to be a physician. While there, he became deathly sick, still hearing the call of the Lord to preach the gospel. One day Charles tried to pray. Finally he began praying, asking God to heal him. And God did heal him.

Charles, still ignoring the call of the Lord to the ministry, went back to college. He had to walk on the sides of his feet to get around campus. Doctors had told him he'd never walk again. The Lord had healed him completely except for his ankles. Finally Charles submitted to the will of God, and prayed, telling God he would go into the ministry. God miraculously healed his ankles and let him walk perfectly.

Bro. Parham began preaching Sanctification as a second definite work of grace, as taught by John Wesley, who was of Methodist persuasion. He had a good ministry and during this ministry he met and married Sarah E. Thistlethwaite, on Dec. 31, 1896. She was a great part of his ministry. She was understanding when he had long revivals and was gone for long periods of time. She helped in carrying a burden for his ministry.

They had 4 sons and one daughter. One son died at a very young age. They were all supportive of their father's ministry, never complaining when he was gone, but always making the best of the time he spent with them. They respected him highly, almost to the point of placing him on a pedestal. There were other family members involved in Charles' ministry as well. Sarah's sister was always very helpful in his ministry.

Bro. Parham traveled over many parts of the country holding revivals and services for all denominations. His life touched many other lives. I am especially interested in his work in Southwestern Missouri and Southeastern Kansas since he started our movement and this is the area I've been raised in. He also held many revivals in Texas, California, Iowa, and New Mexico.

His ministry was a very outstanding one. He preached salvation by faith, sanctification, healing, and other essential teachings of the word. After the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, he preached on this experience and how it is still for lives in this day and age. He preached against demons and in many instances was involved in casting demons out of people. He preached that the second coming of Christ was near at hand and that organizing churches was wrong. He felt the need to evangelize more than to pastor churches. As a result of his strict attitude against organization, our movement has not grown as much as it could have. However, this was not his fault, he really believed the Lord was coming soon.

Bro. Parham started many wonderful schools. Our Bible School got its start from Bro. Parham. He established the Bethel Healing Home and the Bethel Bible School, both in Topeka, Kansas.

The purpose of the healing home was to provide a home atmosphere for the sick, and provide physical care and spiritual healing as well. There are many wonderful testimonies of healings that took place there. They also studied the word.

The Bethel Bible School in Topeka was opened in October, 1900. There they studied many truths. When they had studied repentance, conversion, sanctification, healing and the second coming of the Lord, they came to a serious question in their study: "What about the second chapter of Acts?" They didn't really understand, so they began searching out the scriptures concerning the evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Bro. Parham went to Kansas City for services and when he returned to the school he found that a very marvelous thing had taken place. The Holy Spirit had come and taken his abode in many of the student's lives and they had received the Pentecostal Baptism with the evidence of speaking in other languages. A marvelous thing happened when one woman asked Bro. Parham to pray for her that she would be filled. She had felt the call into the ministry in a foreign country. When Bro. Parham laid hands on her, she began to speak in Chinese and was unable to speak in English for three days. When she wrote, she wrote in Chinese. Oh, for experiences like this today! After this outpouring, he ministered the Baptism of the Holy Spirit wherever he went. Many people were curious about the new "baptism", so his ministry grew rapidly. People ate up the words he spoke. Many believed him - some didn't. His revivals were the subject of many newspaper articles. Some journalists were skeptical, some believed and were amazed. But all had something to say about his ministry. Bro. Parham was harassed by many non-believers and even had his life threatened on several occasions, but he had a wonderful ministry.

However, out of this ministry came signs and fanaticism (manifestations not of the Lord). One place where these false things were presented was at Azusa Street in Los Angeles, California. This mission was started by W. J. Seymour, a colored man who had sat and studied under Bro. Parham's teachings in the Bible School at Houston, TX. Seymour and Lucy Farrar went to Los Angeles and started the work at Azusa Street. They were very dedicated to the Lord. Satan didn't like the work God was doing in L.A., so he sent one of his false spirits. People were speaking in tongues whose lives

did not back up their profession. They were using hypnotism and were practicing manifestations of the flesh, spiritualistic controls and chattering languages that were not of the Holy Spirit. At first, Seymour came to Bro. Parham asking for help, but later turned against him. He denied the fact that Parham taught him and claimed that Azusa Street was where the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain first fell. He was possessed with a spirit of leadership and deceived many people. From this came many other Pentecostal Movements. The Apostolic Faith still lives on!

Bro. Parham had other such experiences with fanaticism, but never quit preaching the truth. He kept his faith in God even when the going got tough. He trusted God for healing, physical and material needs, guidance, and wisdom. He carried out his calling to the fullest of his ability.

Bro. Parham had a deep desire for a long time to go to the Holy Land and see where his Lord walked and ministered. Finally, he had the opportunity to go to Israel, but when he got to New York, he was mugged and had to go on preaching. He just trusted that this was a sign from God that it wasn't God's will to go and continued preaching. He knew he'd go someday. If at first you don't succeed, try again. And he did. Bro. Parham went to Israel and stayed there for many months. There he was deeply impressed with the beauty of this country. He felt the presence of the Lord in his life as he walked in the same places his Saviour walked. He was also impressed with the people there and he met many new friends there. He visited Egypt also. He had the privilege of having a Baptismal Service in the Jordan River. He brought many pictures and slides back to the states with him. He shared his experience there with many believers.

Bro. Parham died in 1929 but his ministry lives on. Churches are still preaching the gospel he preached. His paper, the Apostolic Faith Report, still goes into the homes of around 3500 receivers. His books have been read by many Full Gospel believers wanting to know their history as a believer in the Pentecostal Baptism. And the ministry Bro. Parham had still lives on in my life, and hopefully, if the Lord tarries, my ministry will live on in the lives of others after I'm gone. Praise the Lord for people who will be used of God!

#### CONCLUSION

As I was reading this book, I did some personal soul searching in my life. I was ashamed. My dedication is small, my faith is weak, and my desires and priorities are very often in the wrong place and I don't know why. It seems like we have it so easy these days. I have never wondered where the next meal would come from, I have never been sick enough to really trust the Lord for healing. I have never had attempts made on my life for believing what I believe. I wonder if I have somewhere, at sometime failed to make that complete consecration to God. Would I be willing to leave my career, family, and home life to preach for Jesus I don't know. I pray that I would.

It seems as if today, we as Christians put so much of our faith in other things to sustain us. Perhaps this is why our churches rarely see a person healed, or witness the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in other languages, and I mean a real God-given experience. Perhaps this is why we see so many people who have to struggle to make it to church on time, if they even make it, or this could be the reason we see so many professors who don't possess a thing. Our dedication is lacking. Our first love has grown cold. I want to warm up that first love. I want to get rid of all those feelings and attitudes that claimed what Bro. Parham had was not for us today. I would really love to see the power they felt back then. The tragedy is that I don't know where to start. Have we gone so far and drifted so far from the truth that we cannot find our way back. Surely not. There must be some way to feel that revival spirit in our midst again. With God's help perhaps some day I will find the experience that Bro. Parham had. Then I can help other Christians feel that, too.

## Forgiveness From God

I want to be used by God. I really do. I just need a desire. "Lord, bring back the new again."

Sometimes you ask, "Will I be forgiven for my sins?" "Will God forgive me for all I have done?" The Bible says, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23. There is no big or little sin that can keep you out of "The Book of Life." It's just as bad for a "little white lie" as committing adultery.

If you really trust and believe in God and are willing to turn your whole life over to him, you can be born again. I Peter 1:23, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." Then God will forgive you of your sins and take you under his wings like a mother hen does her chicks. He has waited so long for you to turn to Him.

God is a friend and he loves us very much. John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son (Jesus), that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Jesus, the Son of God, died on the cross that our souls might be saved.

God is someone you can talk to, when no one else has time or patience or just doesn't seem to care. When all of your "so called" friends betray your confidence, and add to what you have told them. Micah 7:5, "Trust ye not in a friend, put ye not confidence in a guide: keep the doors of thy mouth from her that lieth in thy bosom."

Your so called friends may never forgive you for what you have done, but God will. He will forgive and forget. He will wipe your slate clean no matter what has been done, "Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little." Luke 7:47.

Usually the hardest thing to do is to forgive yourself. It will take time, and a lot of praying to get over this trial. Satan will throw it up in your face everytime you are getting closer to the Lord, trying to make you fall. If you keep praying and rebuking Satan, you will win and have salvation. I know: It's happened to me.

Sharon Shannon



**YOUTH RETREAT**  
**Aug. 8, 1985**  
**Apostolic Faith Bible College**  
**For Information:**  
**Lachelle Whitely**  
**2424 Ingram Mill Rd.**  
**Apt. E-5**  
**Springfield, Mo. 65804**  
**Ph. 417-882-6456**

# Apostolic Faith Bible College

ANNOUNCES

## Commencement

May 8-9

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Wed. May 8

9:00 a.m. Advisory Board Meeting  
1:00 p.m. General Business Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Final Concert by College  
Choir

Thurs, May 9

10:00 a.m. Ordination - Dedication  
Service

2:00 p.m. Homecoming Service

7:30 p.m. Commencement

### For More Information:

Rev. Jack Cornell  
P.O. Box 110  
Baxter Springs, Ks. 66713  
Ph. 316-856-3283

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### SUMMER ACTIVITIES

<b>Panhandle Youth Camp</b> Laverne, Okla.	June 3-8 June 10-15
<b>Lost Pines Youth Camp</b> Warda, Texas	June 9-14
<b>4-State Youth Camp</b> Baxter Springs, KS	June 16-20
<b>Pine Crest Youth Camp</b> Quitman, MS	June 22-27

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### CAMP MEETING 1985

Baxter Springs, KS  
July 22-28  
Chairman:  
Rev. O.A. Busch  
1614 Washington  
Baxter Springs, KS 66713  
Ph. 316-856-2626

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