

# FAITH<sup>AND</sup>VICTORY

USPS184-660

## Church of God Servant

Unto Him shall the  
gathering of the  
people be.

God Is  
LOVE

YE SHINE AS  
LIGHTS IN  
THE WORLD.

JESUS  
SAVES

The night cometh,  
when no man  
can work.

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### A New Year's Resolve

In this New Year that I now face  
I have a holy, pure resolve:  
A challenge that I will embrace,  
'Round which my whole life shall revolve:

I would that in God's Book so great  
My name would surely written be;  
That in His favor I would rate,  
That in that day He'd remember me.

No good have I to win His eye;  
Unworthy, helpless, empty, vain,  
Without a price to pay have I,  
No means or method life to gain.

Alone upon His grace so free  
Afforded in His gracious Son,  
Can I base my expectancy  
Life's triumph to be justly won.

The Bible's truth the way makes clear  
Of what my duty is to be,  
That in His sweet embrace so dear  
A refuge can be found for me:

Submission to His gracious will,  
Humility of mind and heart,  
A meek and quiet spirit still,  
A faith from love in every part,

A pure and holy life so true,  
A mind His precepts to obey,  
A patience strong and ever new  
With hope and cheer for every day.

In all these things I would increase  
And overcome all threat to stray,  
Be found in Him and in His peace  
And be remembered in that day!

—Bro. Leslie Busbee

### The Kingdom of God is Mutual Aid

By John Varghese

The kingdom of God is within you! The kingdom of God is among you! It is stamped into our relationships with one another—it is the way we are made to live corporately. A college professor tells of how as a boy he and another boy were on a seesaw and were playing nicely until the idea struck him of jumping off when his end was down, letting the other boy down with a crash. The other boy then refused to play with him. Finally he persuaded him to play again, and then the other boy let him down in the same way, with the same crash. Then neither one would trust the other; so the play ended permanently. The one boy broke the law of friendship, and in the end lost the friendship of the other boy—and the game.

**You cannot violate the law of love any more than you can violate the law of gravity and not get hurt.** Suppose the law of mutual aid, which is the law of life among the organs and members of our bodies, should be violated by the members—the stomach falling out with the heart and refusing to give it nourishment; the heart retaliating and refusing to give the stomach any blood; the feet refusing to cooperate with each other, one going in one direction and the other in the other; the arteries and the veins refusing to cooperate, the arteries withholding pure blood and the veins holding up the elimination of impurities—in short, if the organs of the body became selfish and competitive instead of unselfish and cooperative, the whole system would collapse, and with it the parts. If the parts would save their life in self-

centeredness, they would lose it. Only as they lose themselves in the interest of the whole, do they find themselves again.

This law of mutual aid is not something imposed on the body from without as a decree.

It is written into the very constitution of its being. As no one has imposed the law, so no one imposes the penalties. They are inherent and self-acting. Break the law of mutual aid, and the results come automatically.

## Filling The Vacuum

Transcribed and edited from a message by Bro. James Bell,  
preached at Guthrie, OK, on October 29, 1993.

Continued from last month.

I have thought different times about just one degree. You might think, "What is one degree?" To a lot of people one degree means nothing. You can change the temperature in here one degree and most of us won't notice it. But if you want to make steam, you will never make it at two hundred and eleven degrees. Water will set all day long and never make steam at two hundred and eleven degrees. It just won't happen.

One degree means the difference in a locomotive taking off, building up steam and starting to pull a quarter of a mile long load of cars behind it. One degree is important, and little things are important, too. It is the little projects, like throwing your socks in the corner when you should have picked them up. It is not taking care of the small things and continually pulling and drawing out of the home instead of putting in. One degree means the difference, and one little thing, many times, is the difference in us making it and not making it in relationships.

May the Lord help you and me tonight to be able to recognize our needs. Maybe I have been taking my children for granted. Maybe you wives haven't been doing what you could for your husband. Maybe there are some areas that you need to improve on.

To keep a balanced relationship, we must keep the pressure at a minimum. Don't let things pile up and accumulate and get higher and higher until it suffocates all the love and the compassion, and the home becomes just an empty shell.

My heart is burdened tonight that we see some areas in our lives, and not just see them, and say, "Oh, that was really a good message. I'll fix all the doorknobs." May we go home and be a changed people. I like the song that says, "Lord, I'm so tired of being stirred and not being changed." Get a glass of water and stir it up, then set it down, and all the dregs will fall to the bottom when it settles down.

We are wanting the blessings of the Lord in our married life, aren't we? I tell you, these things bring the blessings of the Lord. It will be in the small things that you gain ground with God. Don't be out looking for great big things. You take care of the little things, and the big things will happen in their own time. I know they will, and I know these things work.

If there is a vacuum in the home, the husband and wife become a little bit estranged from each other. When they're not warm anymore, what do you think happens? There will be somebody else that comes along and gives the attention they crave. The vacuum will be filled someday, somehow. This is going on all the time, and marriages fail.

Christ said, "Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold." Have you ever seen how wise the world is? Just take a look. How many fast food restaurants were there twenty years ago? Just look at how many there are now. We can see something happening right here. Why did they all of a sudden spring up? Where did they come from? Did somebody just start learning how to cook chicken and hamburgers? I still like my mom's hamburgers and I would rather have her fried chicken than anybody else's.

You might say, "Well, we're just so fast paced." Yes, both parties are working, and they don't have time. The fast food business says, "We will fill the vacuum. You don't have to cook anymore. We will do all the cooking for you." They're smart, aren't they? They reached right in there and filled that void and vacuum that was left in the home.

The Bible said in the book of Timothy, "Men in the last days shall be...lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God." All I have to do to make big money is to find out what pleases the flesh. A lot of the false religions in the world have hatched out because of a vacuum created by

religious professors. The Bible said they would heap to themselves teachers having itching ears. The itching ear was because they didn't have a love for the truth.

There are a lot of vacuums that are being filled tonight, and I hope that you and I are not responsible for creating them. I hope that you and I have a home life that is filling the needs of our children. Children can see if Mom and Dad have the love of God. If they love the Lord and there is warmth, the children feel at home. But I want to tell you, there are a lot of children who don't know the meaning of a functional home. They don't have any idea what it is like to have Mom and Dad together. They live either with Mom, or they live with Dad, and that is a terrible vacuum. Children and young people are growing up and wanting to reach out and grab hold of something. They are hungry, and the thing that the devil presents to them many times is not what they really need.

You see, if we miss out on this important truth, it is not just Mom and Dad who lose; it is the children. If the children grow up not knowing the meaning of an established home, they tend to have the same problems in their married life, because Mom and Dad never did get along together.

It is a dangerous thing for us to go on in a vacuum. It just doesn't work, and we will suffer the consequences if we don't realize and take advantage of the things that God has provided for us. In I Peter it says that God has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness. He will fill all the longings of the heart; all the longings of the home; whatever we need.

I took a young man and my boys out on a little canoe trip. We have a quiet little stream that we like to go to. We took an old tent, and spent the night out. That young man just came to life. He told me, "You know, my dad never did do things like this with me. He would always say, 'Here, take two hundred dollars and go have a good time.'" His dad was very wealthy, but he never did say, "Let's go do something together." He expected money to fill a vacuum. It doesn't work. You can't say, "Honey, I love

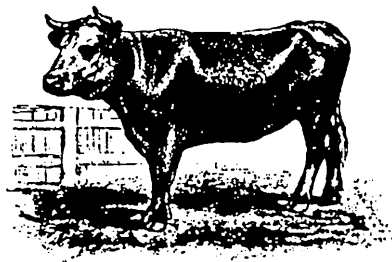
you. Here is some money. Go have a good time." She didn't marry you for money. She married you because she loved you and she wants you. If money is all you have between you, your marriage is in trouble.

What does the Bible say in Proverbs? Better it is to have a dry morsel where love is, than where there is a stalled ox and hatred therewith. The stalled ox, the material things alone, don't bring happiness.

In II Kings the 6th and 7th chapters we read, "And there was a great famine in Samaria: and, behold, they besieged it,..." Do you know what besieged means? People in war know that if they

can cut off everything coming in and going out, they will soon starve the people to death. Our government imposes embargoes and sanctions on other countries to pressure them to come under certain demands.

It said, "An ass's head was sold for fourscore pieces of silver, and the fourth part of a cab of dove's dung for five pieces of silver." Now I don't know how many of you have ever seen an old donkey's head on a plate. Imagine



*What does the Bible say in Proverbs?*

*Better it is to have a dry morsel  
where love is, than where there is  
a stalled ox and hatred therewith.  
The stalled ox, the material things  
alone, don't bring happiness.*

sitting down to eat that. What kind of fight do you think there would be for part of that head? There is a grab for drumsticks or the breast, but what kind of run is there going to be on a donkey's head? These people were starving to death. Do you know that there are a lot of people in life who are just like this? The things of the world that fill their vacuum have kept them held up in places. They are in little dens starving to death. We can read on about how intense hunger was in these people.

It says in the 26th and 27th verses, "And as the king of Israel was passing by upon the wall, there cried a woman unto him, saying, Help, my lord, Oh king. And he said, If the Lord do not help thee, whence shall I help thee? out of the barnfloor, or out of the winepress?" They are pretty low down in the barrel, aren't they? "I can't help you, woman. If God doesn't help you, how can I help you? There is nothing around here to eat. Can't you see?"

(Continued on page 11.)

## FAITH AND VICTORY

### 16 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY



This non-sectarian paper is edited and published in the interest of the universal CHURCH OF GOD each month (except August of each year, and we omit an issue that month to attend camp meetings), by Wayne Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK 73044 (USPS184-660).

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Dated copy for publication must be received by the 18th of the month prior to the month of issue.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES



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| Single copy, one year .....                        | \$1.00 |
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Larger quantities are figured at the same rate.

This publication teaches salvation from all sin, sanctification for believers, unity and oneness for which Jesus prayed as recorded in John 17:21, and manifested by the apostles and believers after Pentecost. By God's grace we teach, preach, and practice the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ-the same gospel that Peter, John, and Paul preached, taught, and practiced, including divine healing for the body. James 5:14-15.

Its motto: Have faith in God. Its object: The glory of God and the salvation of men; the restoration and promulgation of the whole truth to the people in this "evening time" as it was in the morning Church of the first century; the unification of all true believers in one body by the love of God. Its standard: separation from the sinful world and entire devotion to the service and will of God. Its characteristics: No discipline but the Bible, no bond of union but the love of God, and no test of fellowship but the indwelling Spirit of Christ.

Through the Free Literature Fund thousands of gospel tracts are published and sent out free of charge as the Lord supplies. Cooperation of our readers is solicited, and will be appreciated in any way as the Bible and the Holy Spirit teach you to do or stir your heart. "Freely ye have received, freely give." Read Ex. 25:2; I Chron. 29:9; II Cor. 9:7; and Luke 6:38.

Freewill offerings sent in to the work will be thankfully received as from the Lord. Checks and money orders should be made payable to Faith Publishing House. All donations are tax deductible.

A separate Missionary Fund is maintained in order to relay missionary funds from our readers to the support of home and foreign missionaries and evangelists.

In order to comply with the Oklahoma laws as a non-profit religious work, the Faith Publishing House is incorporated thereunder.

### FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE

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## Editorials

We send greetings to all of our readers. We are thankful for everyone who has the interest and takes the time to read the *Faith and Victory* paper. It is certainly our endeavor, and our prayer, that it be the pure Word of God that is printed in this paper, so that you will be benefited from reading it.

Another year has passed. It has been a year full of activity, which makes time fly by quickly. A new year always turns our attention to time, its relevance to our lives, and on a broader scope, to where this world stands in the scheme of God's time. I would like to share a few thoughts with you.

Ever since the late 1800's, the Church's focus has been on the prophecy that at evening time it shall be light. (Zech. 14:7). This places a time period on the world as it relates to the return of God to call all things into judgment. It is possible to use this prophecy as the time of Christ's first coming and establishing a spiritual kingdom, and as to the events that His earthly dispensation ushered in, but in pondering what the reformation of the late 1800's ushered in, we see a parallel of the prophecy as the time from the early morning Church up until the end of time. However, we must realize time is not standing still. This frail shell of an earth has been continually hurtling towards the abyss of eternity. Those of us who are riding this sphere of destruction must keep our thinking relevant to the events that are happening on it. This is the only clue we have as to the schedule of time for our final destination.

In the parable of the ten virgins, Christ referenced the return of the bridegroom as being at midnight. (Matt. 25:6). This is a time when sleep is the general norm, a time when people do not have their attentions turned to the coming of God. In observing the signs of our society, we must say that this condition seems to be upon us, and we must say that the evening time is far spent and the shades of night have set in. This is not to say that we no longer have the light of the evening time, for I believe we hold the truths within our hearts. What it does say is that we must be of the frame of mind that rather than to stagnate into a condition of being doctrinally ingrown, we must be a light ourselves by letting the truths of God's Word shine out through a holy conversation. (II Peter 3:11). As we do this, we will find God verifying His Word

through our works. It is easy to sit still and be in a muddle as to whether the power of God is among His people. If a people have the power to live a holy life, there is enough power present to accomplish all other works. What is needed is the situation for the power to be applied to. Without a missionary-minded people, a people desirous of letting their light shine in a darkened world, the problem is simply that there isn't the opportunity for God's power to be manifested.

To know that time is winding down should not be a depressing thought to us. It should be a challenge. There are many things to be done. Satan knows this and he hasn't folded his hands. Notification must be given to the Church, and let it stand up and say, "...Here am I; send me." Isa. 6:8.

We are appreciative of all those who have supported this phase of the work of the Lord through the past year, and welcome all those who might have a burden to do so in this coming year. May God bless each of you to be in His will, and rejoicing in His blessings throughout the year of 1994.

We still have in stock a supply of 1994 wall calendars. The calendars measure 7 1/4 X 13 1/2, and have a colorful nature scene with a Bible verse for each month. They sell for \$3.00 each, which includes the postage and handling charge.

We also have ready for sale, bound volumes of the 11 issues of the *Faith and Victory* paper for the year of 1993. The price is \$1.00 per book, plus \$1.25 for postage and handling. Also in stock are 1993 *Beautiful Way* yearbooks for Juniors (52 papers for the year) at \$1.00 each, plus 90¢ for postage and handling. There is a limited supply of these books and they will be sold on a first-come basis.



One ship drives east and another west  
With the self-same winds that blow;  
'Tis the set of sail, and the gale  
That determines the way they go.

Like the winds of the sea the ways of fate  
As we voyage along through life;  
'Tis the set of the soul that decides the goal  
And not the calm or the strife.

—Selected

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## Prayer Requests

OK—"Please keep me on your prayer list."

—Juliette Lounds

WV—"I need prayer." —Queen Luzader

IL—"Please remember me and all of my family in prayer. I need prayer for healing of my body."

—Elsie Offerman

MO—"Pray for my health." —Laura Jarvis

OR—"Please pray that my health will improve."

—Neula Davisson

OK—"I need prayer. I have high blood pressure and nerve problems." —Sis. Bessie Patton

KS—"I would like to be remembered in prayer for some struggles I have had." —Alice Baker



## MEETING REPORT

### SHAWNEE, OK MEETING REPORT

We have been blessed with such a wonderful revival here in Shawnee, held by Bro. Mart Samons. The Lord gave us just what we needed. Great soul-searching messages were preached and there was some altar work.

Thanks to all who attended. Your support was surely appreciated.

Christian love to all, —Bro. Bill McMakin



### NEW SINGING TAPES AVAILABLE

I have two new 60 minute stereo recorded cassettes available, titled "The Blessing of Pentecost." It is a collection of inspired songs on the fullness of the glory and power of God willed to every Christian in the gift of the Holy Spirit.

With these two tapes I am also offering a 90 minute cassette of a sermon by Bro. Mart Samons on the subject of "Cleansing," recorded at the Monark Springs camp meeting in 1986. Each tape is \$2.00 post paid. You may order the entire set for \$6.00. Order from *Songs of the Evening Light*, c/o Harlan Sorrell, Rt. 1 Box 118-A, Myrtle, MO 65778.

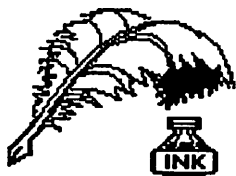


All true service begins in personal contact with Jesus. One cannot know Him personally without catching the warm contagion of His spirit for others. And there is a fine fragrance, a gentle, soft warmth, about the service that grows out of being with Him.

Wherever the Spirit of the Lord Jesus sways the heart, there is a passion to serve.

—Selected

# LETTERS FROM THE READERS



OK—Dear Bro. Wayne and staff: We do enjoy the *Faith and Victory* paper so much. It is very encouraging and uplifting each month.

In our Sunday school lessons we now are learning about "vanity" in the book of Ecclesiastes. It helps us to know and understand the things of this world and the times we are living in.

We want to thank the Lord for helping us through the rough places this last year, and I do wish to thank the saints for all their prayers in our behalf. It is so worthwhile to trust in Him, and we mean to keep on to our end.

—Bro. and Sis. Alferd Classen

MI—Dear Bro. Wayne and all you dear ones: Greetings in the love of Jesus. I pray all is going well. I praise God for all the good, rich blessings that flow down upon us each day of our lives! I thank Him for the way He has taken care of me these 67 years of my life. He has never failed me.

I need a healing touch. I have a sore which doesn't seem to heal, and it is very annoying at times.

I also had a bad fall on October 23rd. It shook me up a lot. I haven't been feeling too well since, but I sure thank Him that I didn't break my arm or hip. I fell on my right side. I tripped over a small tree stump and it threw me to the ground. I was washing my windows but I wasn't using a ladder so I didn't fall from very high up....

I love all of you and I pray and wish all of you a very nice and blessed Christmas, and a happy New Year in the Lord.

My Christian love and prayers,

—Sis. Olive Gettersen

OK—Dear Bro. and Sis. Wayne Murphey: Greetings again with Christian love. The Lord is yet blessing me daily. Maybe you heard how very, very sick I was the last days of July and the first few days of August. Perhaps the first five days I can remember very little. When I did awake in the hospital the presence of the Lord was there with me. They tell me I was very sick and suffered, but, the Lord was so good. I don't remember one pain. I was in the hospital for 15

days, and a day or so before I left the head nurse came to my bed and asked me, "Do you know you have had a miraculous healing?" I asked, "Do you think so?" She said, "I know you have for some purpose." She said no more and just walked out of the room....

Thanks for prayer,

—Johnnye Lee Johnson

OR—Greetings of love to our dear brothers and sisters in the Lord: What a wonderful and loving God we serve. He is so good to His people. We thank Him each morning for giving us another day together on this side of eternity.

James has had a really good week for one with terminal cancer. We give God all the praise. We also thank the many saints for their prayers, kind deeds, cards, gifts, phone calls and personal calls. It really just thrills us how our young saints have come to see us, had prayer with us and showed so much love for us two old people. I must not fail to thank our own children. They have also helped and stood by us in every way possible. May God bless each one of you abundantly is our prayer.

—Bro. James and Sis. Orpha Mapes

OK—Dear saints: This past Thanksgiving day we were shown most vividly that "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Psalms 46:1. What a privilege to personally know and serve such a God!

On that day we were returning from the assembly meeting in Loranger, LA driving a super-cab Ford Ranger pickup and pulling a small fifth-wheel travel trailer. We had come through Dallas quite early so traffic was light and the weather was dry, though very cold. As we neared the Oklahoma line there were brief sleet showers but the ice seemed to be melting on contact with the road.

About five miles into Oklahoma we saw a truck ahead driving very slowly with his emergency flashers on and then could see that traffic was backed up for a half mile or so ahead. When we came to two southbound cars that had spun out into the center divider, we thought that was the cause of the traffic tie-up and expected the traffic to resume normal speed. But just as we were approaching an overpass we passed a patrolman standing on the center line warning everyone to go very slowly. We soon found that the bridge was covered with ice. As we drove on, the roadway was dry so we resumed our speed,



remarking that we would have to watch for any bridges ahead.

We had gone only ten miles further when we felt the truck beginning to slide. Before we had realized it we were on an overpass. Because of a stiff head wind we were travelling no faster than 45 miles an hour, but we were suddenly out of control!

As we slid into the fast lane of traffic we both saw we were going to hit a red car that was being towed. There was a slight impact and immediately we were whipped back across both lanes heading directly into the heavy steel guard rail. As we crashed through the railing we were looking out over a very steep embankment and expected to next be rolling down it toward the road below.

Instead, we were jerked backwards (evidently by the whip of the trailer as it came around us and overturned). When we came to rest, we were about two car lengths beyond where we had crashed through the railing, parallel and very close to the guard rail. We were now heading the opposite direction we had been travelling. The trailer was just behind us at a right angle across the slow lane and bottom side up.

As we assessed our situation we saw the truck had sustained very heavy damage, front and back. The super cab was crushed in almost to the back of the passenger's seat and the passenger side door was jammed. All around us we saw broken glass and twisted metal. But just where we sat, everything was intact! When people came running to see how badly we were injured we were able to tell them we didn't have even a scratch. We had broken glass all in our hair and clothing but there was not one drop of blood.

We were taken to a nearby motel where we spent the rest of the day in true thanksgiving to the Lord for sparing both of us and not allowing anyone else to be involved even though we were in heavy traffic. We were both struck with the realization that there had not been time to pray; it had all happened so quickly.

Every day since has been a day of special thanksgiving for life and salvation. We have renewed our consecration and determination to live every day God spares us only to His glory.

—Bro. Edward and Sis. Nelda Sorrell

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OK—Dear ones: Greetings of Christian love in the name of our blessed Redeemer, Jesus

Christ, the One who has done so much for us.

Recently I was visiting one of the saints, and during the interim of my visit there was a five-day revival which she and I were able to attend. We were privileged to go to every service. Each message was a challenge to my soul.

Before the fourth service she and I were invited to dinner at the home of one of the saints. Please take note of the following scripture. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." Luke 6:38. I was made aware of a new meaning to that verse that night.

As we were leaving, after a sumptuous meal and lovely hospitality, circumstances made it necessary for me to step down from the thresh-old with my right foot, which, for some time, I had not been able to do. I expected to step down three inches, but it was a much deeper step. My hip popped and the pain was excruciating. Immediately, two sons of our hostess ran and brought a chair, carried me to the car, then met us at the chapel with a chair and carried me in. I could not bear my weight on my right foot at all. Cushions were arranged for my comfort, then a special made cushion was offered. I was helped up and the special cushion was put in place. I was very nervous, but, nonetheless challenged by the message, "The Unity of the Spirit."

Before dismissal, a young mother rose and testified thus: "I had a serious affliction last summer that made it essential to sit and lean back on a special made cushion. The Lord had healed me, but later the affliction returned and it was again 'a must' to get through service. Tonight when they brought Sister Kelly in, my heart went out to her. I asked my husband to take her the cushion and the Lord would help me to make it without it. During the service, the Lord healed me. Praise the Lord!"

Little had I dreamed that anyone had made such a sacrifice in my behalf. I asked someone to bring her to me after service and our hearts were mingled in gratitude, love and tears. I shall never forget her nor God's love that was made manifest to me. She told me the next day she didn't believe she would have been healed had she not given up the cushion for me. I felt the same way.

Actually, as so many came to greet me and offer help, I felt the message was fully fulfilled.



Everyone there was endeared to me that night. Space will not permit telling of the follow-through of love by the saints there and at home. God's people, the saints, are the most precious people in the world. I have living proof of that. Who knows but that the Lord permitted my accident for the purpose of manifesting "Unity of the Spirit" and God's love? Rom. 8:28 is still true. "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Pray for me.

Referring back to the beginning Scripture, I believe as she "gave" the cushion for my comfort, the Lord "gave" her the healing of her body. Praise the Lord!

I want to be true and faithful to the Lord and His people.

Christian love, —Sister Opal Kelly

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WA—Dear laborers at the Print Shop: Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus our Lord and Saviour; the One who gave His life that we might have life, and have it more abundantly. We are thankful and grateful for His goodness to us.

It is with sadness I write that one of my brothers, Archie Trudgeon, passed away Thanksgiving evening. He was 90 years old, and was saved at an early age and was faithful to the Lord to the end. He was a minister of the Church of God for several years.

Remember us in prayer.

—Sister Violet Thomas

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OK—Greetings to all the readers of the *Faith and Victory*: It has been some time since I have sent in a testimony.

I lived in Dallas, TX, for over 40 years, but knew little about the truth. My mother was saved in one of Brother Willis M. Brown's brusharbor meetings. Her teachings through the Holy Spirit and a gospel paper were all I knew until 19 years of age. My daughter was saved during her highschool years through reading the *Faith and Victory* paper, then worked at Faith Publishing House for six years. She married and lived in Senath, MO, and though there was no Church of God there, they were faithful to go 90 miles to Myrtle, MO, to service. My son was saved when 11 years of age in a camp meeting at Guthrie, OK. He loved the Lord, went through college, had many battles, but is still holding up the truth, filling his place as a Bible teacher.

During a time when my health was bad my

mother had the *Faith and Victory* paper sent to me. I saw that they were having a day of prayer and fasting in Guthrie on Easter Sunday. I had not found anything in many denominations to satisfy my soul, so I wrote for prayer for soul and body. The Lord saved me and healed my body at home. I felt the Lord wanted me to be a home missionary, at which I spent most of my time visiting in hospitals, rest homes and handing out tracts wherever I went.

In Baylor Hospital, one lady said her brother-in-law believed just like her tract read. I visited them, the Loftis family in Prattsville, AR, as I went to visit my daughter. Through that tract and others visiting, a work was started there.

As I visited in a nursing home I found a worldly girl incapacitated for life through an accident. Through reading and having prayer with her, others became interested. One time, when I opened my eyes, there was quite a group standing around her. They had never heard anyone pray who didn't ask the Lord to forgive their sins. The Lord showed me in His Word, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Rom. 8:1, and "He that committeth sin is of the devil;..." I John 3:8.

When my husband passed away in 1975 I came to Guthrie. It was a joy to be in meeting and to help put out the *Faith and Victory* paper. As I had bought an apartment at the Shawnee, OK, Golden Rule Home for my declining years, I came here last fall. Soon afterward, I broke my left wrist. Everyone has been so good and attentive to my needs. I feel I'm where the Lord wants me to be. I trust my next move will be up to the glory world. I want to make heaven my home.

One's soul is his most precious possession. I trust everyone will search until he finds the One True Way. I desire your prayers that I will keep victory to the end.

Love and prayers, —Sister Edith Wall

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Nigeria—Dear saints: I salute you all in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, where all are given liberty through having faith in Him.

I am very happy to become "one" among the saints in Tombia. The scripture says our God added to His Church daily such as should be saved. (Acts 2:47).

I received the call of the Lord on the 9th of December, 1992, and was baptized into the

"body of Christ" on the 9th of February 1993. Before this time I was ignorantly looking for life by going into the secret cult, The Monastery of the Seven Rays, which I thought would give me life, but when I heard the Word of God I knew that there is life in Jesus Christ. Now I have Jesus in me, and now I am always happy in all my doings.

Remember me in prayer for I am out from the clutches of the devil. Prayer is needed for me to be more exalted in the faith.

Your brother, —Kombonimi Igbikis  
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FL—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: I will be having a birthday December the 18th. I will be 81 years old. I surely thank God that He loves me. Heaven holds all to me.

I am giving out gospel tracts and speaking to souls that they may be saved from sin.

Please keep me in your prayers before the Lord.  
—Sis. Kathleen Williams  
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KS—Dear Bro. Wayne and others: Just a note to say may God bless each of you during the coming Christmas season, and may the New Year of 1994 be a spiritually prosperous one.

There is so much sin and darkness all around us, and we surely need to be bright lights. May we each let our light shine out and be determined to be the best saints we can. We must dedicate and consecrate our lives to God and stay on the altar, ready to do His will at all times. I am very encouraged and want to do my best for Jesus.

Christian love, —Shirley Knight  
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OK—Dear saints everywhere: Greetings in Jesus' dear name. I am thankful to be saved and am encouraged to press on.

I want to take this means to thank all of you for your prayers. I have been very sick, but the Lord has blessed me. In March of 1989 I was diagnosed with cancer—multiple myeloma. I had no pain, nor did I feel sick. I kept working until February of 1993. At that time I became very ill, losing all feeling from my chest down to my feet. I was unable to walk. I had a tumor pressing against my spine.

I am so thankful that the Lord touched my body. I am now learning to walk again. I thank God for salvation. My sickness has given me new hope and inspiration to be more committed to God. Please pray for my unsaved loved ones.

There are so many of you who carried a

burden for my healing. I can't praise the Lord enough for His goodness to me. I want you all to know I deeply appreciate your love and prayers. Please continue to pray that God will give me complete healing.

I mean to be true to God until the end.

Yours in Christ, —Ida Mae Thompson  
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AR—Dear Christian brother: ...I must tell you—I took the little sayings from last month's *Faith and Victory* paper to the Senior Citizens center for a thought for the day. I read several for them. Please put more in the paper. They like them.

Thank you for your prayers,

—Sis. Mary Foster

[Editors note: We will be glad to periodically print the sayings and short quotes that are sent in by our readers. We have had quite a few favorable comments on the ones that have been printed.]  
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MS—Dear Bro. Murphey and workers, and readers of the *Faith and Victory*: Christmas greetings in Jesus' sweet name, the One that made it possible for us to have eternal life. I pray that everyone is encouraged in the Lord. I am saved and sanctified, and mean to press on.

In January, 1992 I fell and broke my hip. I am in the nursing home at Bay Springs, MS. I feel that I am where the Lord wants me to be. I am letting my light shine. I want to help people.

Pray for the saints at Zion Hills. They are not well. Pray for us as I do for you.

Your sister in Christ, —Novella Pugh  
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LA—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings of Christian love to you and all the *Faith and Victory* workers.

My paper, which was received a few days ago, brought a real blessing. I read it mostly through before stopping. I appreciate so much the vital truths it contains. No doubt it feeds many dear ones who are "shut-ins" or isolated, and don't have the privilege to be in service to hear the preaching of the gospel as many of us have all of our lives. We who are in service each week are blessed, for the wonderful anointed Word never becomes old or stale. Surely, to a spiritual mind the precious Word always gives life and strength to the soul.

Jesus said, the words I speak unto you are spirit and life. Thank the Lord for His wonderful Word that teaches us how to live. By it we will be

justified if we receive it. If it is rejected, as it seems most of the world has done, it will mean eternal death.

We were blessed to have a good assembly meeting. Precious anointed messages went forth each day and we were blessed to have good weather....

The Lord is so very good to me and has blessed me beyond my expectations. At 82 years of age, my time is running short. I expect, by His help, to meet Him in peace.

A sister in the Lord, —Alta Flynn

CA—Dear faithful workers: Greetings in Jesus' name. I would like to send in a testimony of the healing power of God. I had a fall in December, 1990. I suffered and was in constant pain. I never knew a person could be in pain 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. I fell at work, and therefore I had a scan. A disc and muscle was injured in my back. I was anointed and prayed for many times. I was blessed, but never healed. I finally decided to accept it and live with it. Then in my yearly physical at work, they found other huge problems. During our winter meeting, November 1993, I went to the altar for an increase in faith for those new physical problems, and then prayer for healing.

God healed my back problems completely. He took every pain, hurt and stiffness away. Praise God, He has done some wonderful things for me.

Pray for me, —Sis. Dorothy Gray

MO—Dear folks at the Print Shop: Greetings of Christian love and may all have a blessed holiday season.

We are very thankful for God's great gift to us, His only precious Son, who came among earthly folks to redeem sinful mankind. Truly we have much to be thankful for.

I was unable to go back to California for several weeks following the camp meeting at Monark. I do thank the Lord for His healing touch; also for the prayers, cards, calls and visits of the saints and loved ones. May God bless you all. I have some unspoken requests I desire to have remembered.

Our love and prayers, —Eunice Cole

TX—Dear Bro. Wayne: I just finished reading the paper. How much I enjoy and need the paper. It is truly a stabilizer for me, not that it takes the place of the guidance of the Holy

Spirit, or the Holy Bible, but that it tells me others believe and keep God's commands and live by the "if" of God. "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you,..." John 15:7.

Thank you for the little paper. We worship with others, but the special need in my life is fulfilled by the writers in the paper. I just want to thank God for each and every person who has touched, enlightened, strengthened and encouraged this one. God bless you all at Guthrie.

Yours in Christ Jesus, —Betty Anderson



## Filling the Vacuum

(Continued from page 3.)

Watch what happened. "The king said unto her, What alleth thee? And she answered, This woman said unto me, Give thy son, that we may eat him to day and we will eat my son to morrow. So we boiled my son, and did eat him: and I said unto her on the next day, Give thy son, that we may eat him: and she hath hid her son."

Folks, I didn't make this up. This is in the Bible and this is what happened. It is gross. It is not at all something nice to look at, but this is what was going on inside the city. I want to tell you that when things get so bad that cannibalism breaks out, that is a terrible thing. But it was going on, and this woman was telling the king this story. "And it came to pass, when the king heard the words of the woman, that he rent his clothes; and he passed by upon the wall, and the people looked, and, behold, he had sackcloth within upon his flesh."

Can't you just hear the cries, and can't you just hear what was going on in this place? It reminds me of a time a friend and I were out hunting. We came upon a city dog pound that had been put out at the edge of town where hardly anyone would go. When I heard these dogs carrying on, my buddy and I walked down there, and I tell you, I was shocked to see what was going on. They hadn't been taken care of, and they were eating one another. A large dog had a small dog in his mouth, and the small dog was yelping. The big dog was dragging him back into a dark hole, and they were going to eat him. I told my buddy, "We can't let this go on. You get ready to run. We are going to relieve this situation a little bit." I flipped the gate open and we took off running. You ought to have seen the dogs come running out of that place. They were so glad to get out of there.

This same thing was going on in Samaria. People were eating people. These folks were in trouble. And when it comes down to our own lives, we have situations like this very story. We don't have anything to eat in a marriage. All the love has been washed out. It is bare bones, empty lives, and God is not at all pleased with that kind of home. We have been besieged by materialism.

Are we going to remain in that kind of condition? Are we going to stay there until we perish and the marriage comes apart, or our relationship with the Lord comes apart and we don't know what to do? Are we just going to stay stranded like that?

I tell you the Lord has something more for your life. Your home doesn't have to stay at two hundred and eleven degrees. You don't have to go through life skimping and scraping in the world to fill the vacuum and think that is normal. People have gotten to that place where they actually think this is normal. I am going to tell you, it is not normal. It is not normal to go through a bare bones type relationship with one another and with God. The Lord is not at all pleased with that. Come and give the Lord a try. He has provided for us all things that pertain to life and godliness. The love of God can be rekindled in homes where relationships are ice cold. The Lord has the answer to any problem.

The Bible says to "taste and see that the Lord is good." Just taste and see if this is not true. It will work for us, old folks and young folks alike, or I wouldn't be up here telling you. When we follow God's ways, no vacuums are created.

I want to challenge you. Be man or woman enough to seek the Lord, and you'll go away with a full cup.



## Walking In The Spirit By The Word

By Brian Brannick

This letter deals with being led by the Holy Spirit and walking in the light of the Word of God. As with all areas in the Christian life, there is a balance. So too, with walking by the Spirit. There are some in the body of Christ that allow very little, if any, leading of the Holy Spirit. Then there are others that believe they are only led of the Holy Spirit, discarding many areas of the Bible that disagree with their flesh.

When an individual repents of their sins and

receives Jesus into their heart, then the Lord Jesus Christ says He will send the Holy Spirit. We see this clearly in Acts 2:38, "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Our Lord Jesus Christ says in John 16:7, "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you."

There is of course, much sadness for those in the body of Christ who do not acknowledge and follow the Holy Spirit. Many of us have knowledge of churches that have become steeped in the traditions of men, forsaking the leading of the Holy Spirit. Instead of continuing with their shoulder to the plow, they have stopped to look back, finding contentment in a traditional and comfortable, but dead church. No longer do they pray in the Spirit. No longer do they allow the Holy Spirit to lead them in the truth of God's Word, guiding them to a more mature walk with Christ. We must always be on guard not to become complacent, falling into the traditions of men, turning away from the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Unfortunately, there are many in the body of Christ who claim to be led by the Holy Spirit and yet rebel against much of the Word of God. Our Lord Jesus Christ says clearly in John 16:13, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come." This is a powerful statement our Lord makes. We can see clearly in this scripture that the Holy Spirit will lead us in all truth. Someone might ask, "what is truth?" as Pilate did in John 18:38. Jesus answered this question in John 14:6, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Jesus Christ is the Truth. Jesus Christ is the Word of God. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:1.

When people say the Holy Spirit is leading them, they can go to the Word of God to verify, that is, if it is the Holy Spirit. If the Word of God is in agreement with the leading, then it is the Holy Spirit. But if the Word of God does not agree with the leading, then it is not the Holy Spirit. The Word of God clearly says in John 16:13 that the Holy Spirit will not speak of

himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak. Again in I John 5:7 the Bible says, "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." And in Amos 3:3, "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" What these scriptures show us is that the Holy Spirit will not lead the children of God in a contrary direction from the Word of God. The Holy Spirit leads us in the truth of God's Word, that we may have an understanding of the scriptures, to faithfully follow our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. The Lord clearly says in Psalms 138:2, "I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name." The Lord Jesus says again in Matthew 24:35, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

My heart breaks for so many in the body of Christ that walk apart from the Word of God, believing that the Holy Spirit has showed them that it is all right to do so. There are of course, many reasons why believers disobey God, and one of those is to claim that the Holy Spirit spoke to their heart and said it was okay. But no matter what reason a person gives for disobeying God, it all boils down to self.

Let me give an example of this. I was talking with a person several years ago who told me she needed to be some place in a hurry. She went on to say that the Holy Spirit showed her where the State Troopers were on the highway. This she said allowed her to speed (break the law) until she came to where the State Troopers were, then she would slow down to the speed limit. This of course, was not the leading of the Holy Spirit.

There are of course, many areas where professing Christians say they are being led by the Spirit, when in truth they are in rebellion against the Holy Spirit. The Bible shows us clearly in I Samuel 15:23 what rebellion is, "For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king." And it is so, too, with many professing Christians who reject the Word of God, claiming to be led by the Spirit of God. Galatians 6:7-8, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Sowing to the flesh is to be self-

serving. Sowing to the Spirit is to walk in the Spirit according to the Word of God.

I pray that all of us in the body of Christ would continually examine ourselves; that we may be good and faithful servants, no matter what the cost, unto our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; that we may walk according to the Word of God, being led by the Holy Spirit. Psalm 119:9, "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word."



### Where is Your Faith?

"And they came to him, and awoke him, saying, Master, master, we perish. Then he arose, and rebuked the wind and the raging of the water: and they ceased, and there was a calm. And he said unto them, Where is your faith?... " Luke 8:24-25.

Jesus and His disciples had entered into a ship and Jesus, being weary, went to the hinder part of the ship and went to sleep. A storm came up and the disciples became afraid. Mark says they asked Jesus, "Carest thou not that we perish?"

Their faith was in having Him constantly in sight, and in hearing or feeling distance. Didn't they know that with the Son of God aboard that ship it could not sink, for God's eye was over His Son and He would preserve that ship for His Son's sake even though Jesus was sound asleep?

So with us—is our faith only in seeing, feeling and hearing God, or is it a calm assurance that I have the Son of God reigning in my heart and my ship can't go down as long as Christ is aboard? The storms of life may be raging, trouble on every hand and it may look as though all is in jeopardy. We may not be able to feel His presence or see His workings or hear His calming voice at the moment, yet let us rest assured that He lives in our hearts and with Him aboard, the storms of life cannot sink our ship. Not always will He see fit to still our storms but at times like that we need faith to just lie down on the pillow with Jesus in the hinder part of the ship, so to speak, and rest with Him even in the storm.

Paul said, "And to you who are troubled rest with us,..." (II Thes. 1:7.)

There is peace in the time of trouble,  
There is peace in the midst of the storm.  
There is peace though the world be raging,  
In the shelter of His arms. —Selected

# SOME THINGS WORTH THINKING ABOUT

Forgiveness saves the expense of anger and the cost of hatred.

The man you make for your enemy today may be the only one who can help you twenty-five years from now.

Every time you think you have graduated from the school of experience, somebody thinks up a new course.

*How many people have made you homesick to know God?*

Stay humble or stumble.

No rewards are offered for finding faults.

Stopping at third base adds no more to the score than striking out.

If your faith cannot move mountains, it ought to at least climb them.

He who has no fire in himself cannot warm others.

A grouch thinks the world is against him—and it is.

The expert gossip knows just how much to leave out of a conversation.

Don't mind the fellow who belittles you; he's only trying to cut you down to his size.

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After a man makes his mark in the world, a lot of people will come around with erasers.

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There are those who cast their bread upon the waters hoping it will be returned toasted and buttered.

*Those travelling the highway of humility won't be bothered by any heavy traffic.*

Don't use a gallon of words to express a spoonful of thought.

Time is so powerful it is given to us only in small quantities.

Every time you turn green with envy you are ripe for trouble.

## The Preacher Who Wouldn't Do

A church was in need of a pastor. One of the elders was interested in knowing just what kind of minister they desired. He therefore wrote a letter, as if he had received it from an applicant. He read this letter before the pulpit committee.

"Gentlemen:

"Understanding that your pulpit is vacant, I would like to apply for the position. I have many qualifications that I think you would appreciate. I have been blessed to preach with power and have had some success as a writer. Some say that I am a good organizer. I have been a leader in most places I have gone.

"Some folks, however, have some things against me. I am over 50 years of age. I have never preached in one place for more than three years at a time. In some places I have left town after my work caused riots and disturbances. I have to admit that I have been in jail three or four times, but not because of any real wrongdoing. My health is not too good, though I still get a good deal done. I have had to work at my trade to help pay my way. The churches I have preached in have been small, though located in several large cities.

"I have not gotten along very well with the religious leaders in different towns where I have preached. In fact, some of them have threatened me, taken me to court, and even attacked me physically.

"I am not very good at keeping records. I have even been known to forget whom I baptized. However, if you can use me, I shall do my best for you, even if I have to work to help with my support."

The elder read this letter to the committee and asked them if they were interested in the applicant. They replied that he would never do for their church. They were not interested in any unhealthy, contentious, trouble-making, absent-minded, ex-jailbird; in fact, they felt insulted that his application had even been presented.

The committee asked the name of the applicant, whereupon the elder answered, "The apostle Paul."

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." II Tim. 4:2-4.

(Available in tract form.)

## You Can Choose for Yourself

By Virginia Wittenborn

Originally printed in the *Faith and Victory*,  
January, 1944.

Let us draw a picture of an active Christian and one of a passive Christian and see which fits us and which we would rather be.

Our passive Christian remembers to hold his tongue that no irreverent or ungodly words pass his lips. This is good. Our active Christian remembers to speak with deliberate forethought and premeditation toward glorifying God. This is better. A passive Christian stands fast and resists evil. This is good. An active Christian allows the love of God to be a real and impelling force in his life toward good. This is better. The passive Christian's thoughts rise at random and his words are often without objective or inspiration. The active Christian's thoughts and words are motivated by his love for God, and inspired by God's love for him. The passive Christian says, "If the Lord ever shows me something to do, I'll do it." This is a good attitude, but the active Christian seeks to know the will of God and seeks to fill his place in the body. "Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is."

Oftentimes the passive Christian spends much of his life laboring for that which satisfieth not. He may be resigned to his way of living and seek not to change it. Too often he has much time for leisure and repose. The genuinely active Christian is animated by an enthusiastic and aggressive ardor for the work of God. He bestirs himself zealously; is instant in season and out. There is no inertia here; no folding of the hands to sleep.

Can you vision the results if all passive, inactive Christians should suddenly become animated ones? "Enlarge the place of thy tent and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations; spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left;..." Isaiah 54:2-3.

One day at the California camp meeting a dear sister asked me if I had yet found my place in the body of Christ; if I knew what my duties were. I replied that I knew what I should like to do. She said, "Ah, but it isn't what we most like to do but the thing that God blesses us most in doing. That is the thing He wants us to do."



There is something for all of us to do, our specialty that God is wanting us to do; a little place to fill that only we can fill. Don't make the mistake of thinking it vain or conceited to say, "God has a work for me to do and I mean to do it by his help and grace." Rather would it show more conceit to consider that we are an exception and have no work to do while others must labor for the Lord. I hope and trust that when I see that sister again, I may be able to say, "Yes, God has shown me my place and I am happy in doing the things He would have me do." And by His grace I mean to find that place and that work. What a great day and what a looking up there will be when every little child of God finds his place and fills it. It is important too, to keep ourselves in a condition for that work of whatever nature it might be and in the place where we can perform it.

There is a story about a young Finnish girl who was coming to America to find work. A married couple, in seeking to employ her asked if she could cook. No, she couldn't cook. Could she sew? No, she replied that she had never tried to sew. Could she care for children? No, she had never learned to take care of children. "What **can** you do?" asked the couple in exasperation. "Why, I can milk reindeer," cheerfully responded the girl.

Let us not be like the Finnish girl. But rather let us be found in the place where our service can be used.



### A New Year's Prayer

Dear Master, for the coming year,  
Just one request I bring.  
I do not pray for happiness  
Or any earthly thing,  
I do not ask to understand  
The way Thou leadest me.  
But this I ask, teach me to do  
The thing that pleaseth thee.

I want to know Thy guiding voice,  
To walk with Thee each day.  
Dear Master, make me swift to hear,  
And ready to obey.  
And there's the year I now begin,  
A happy year will be,  
If I am seeking just to do  
The thing that pleases Thee.

—Author unknown



### Excerpts Taken From Jan., 1969 Faith and Victory

Harland Smith went to live with Jesus from his home in Claremont, California, at the age of 48 years....

He served in the United States Navy during the Second World War, and it was while he was still in the navy one night, while lying in his bunk, that he repented of his sins and sought and found Christ as his Saviour. Since that time he has lived for Christ and developed into a valiant soldier of the cross of Christ and died in the triumphs of a living faith, trusting in God....

The greatest burden of his heart was to reach and be a blessing to under-privileged souls in Mexico with the blessings of the gospel of Christ. His greatest efforts were centered in the mission work in Baja, California, where he expended much of his time, strength and money and accomplished a good work for God in that area.

His presence, his beaming smile, his courageous spirit and his words of encouragement and comfort will be much missed in the church, in his family, among his friends and wherever he was known. Perhaps the ones who will miss him most are the workers and people in Mexico where he labored so faithfully among them for several years....

The funeral services were conducted by Bro. Ostis B. Wilson, assisted by Sister Laverne Manuel and Bro. Charles Smith.... Singing was by the Elwell quartet. Sisters Ruby Marken and Opal Kelly, former missionaries in Mexico, sang the song "Heavenly Welcome" in Spanish.