FAITHAND ICTORY

Church of God Servant

Unto <u>Him</u> shall the gathering of the people be.

Gop Is Love E

YE SHINE AS LIGHTS IN THE WORLD.

JESUS SAVES

The night cometh, when no man can work.

Volume 73, No. 8

73rd Year

Guthrie, Oklahoma

\$1.00 Per Year

Nov., 1995

In Every Thing Give Thanks

In ev'ry thing give thanks to God And count His blessings o'er: Be filled with praise and gratitude For all His boundless store.

Let not the strain of mortal toil And dark distressful days The joy and peace within you spoil Or dim your song of praise.

Much better than a woeful mind To have a thankful heart: To view the many mercies kind God's faithful to impart.

Sin not against our gracious King By murmur or complaint; Cast all your care on Him, and sing: Just be a thankful saint!

The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, And sorrow soon shall dim: No foe can in the strife avail

While we cling close to Him.

Be thankful for the future bright That saints of God possess: Be thankful for the gospel light

That shows His holiness.

Life's burdens oft' are hard to bear: They tend to weight you down; But learn to cast on Him your care; Trade for a smile your frown.

In ev'ry thing give thanks, be glad; Rejoice in God today; By His kind hand of love be led On up the shining way!

-Leslie C. Busbee

THE SOURCE OF OUR SELF-WORTH

By Mary Murphey

Imagine yourself riding in a limousine every day, surrounded by secret service men, rubbing shoulders with the leaders of the world, and constantly in the public eye. You are the most relevant person on earth, until suddenly it all ends. You awaken one morning to find yourself an "ordinary" citizen, doing the breakfast dishes and riding in the family station wagon to the local Wal-Mart store.

That's a description I heard of the change George Bush was forced to undergo as his successor took office. After so many years in public service, he admitted it was a tough transition.

It reminded me of a quote from Corrie Ten Boom, who underwent a great deal of change in her life, also, especially as an inmate of a notorious World War II concentration camp.

"I have learned to hold things loosely," she said, "because it hurts when God has to pry my fingers loose."

Our security and sense of self-worth often seem to depend on external things: our position in society or on the job, our possessions, beauty, or brains, all of which can enrich life, but...

What happens if you lose them?

One father has told of how, as he would enter a store accompanied by his attractive young daughter, strangers would shower the child with friendly attention—until the day she fell and injured her face in such a way that it appeared she had been born with a disfigurement. It was a temporary injury, but there was a noticeable change in the attitude of people

toward his child. Now strangers simply ignored her. She was the same person as before, but her looks were what made the difference in how she was treated, and when she was less attractive, she was made to feel less important.

Physical beauty is a gift. But encroaching age has an insidious way of dismantling it. That's why I like the triumphant little note of consolation in a poem I heard, which declares:

Beauty's only skin deep, but ugly's to the bone. Beauty always fades away, but ugly holds its own!

And who doesn't admire a fine mind? I grieved the loss of intellect in our former president, renowned as "The Great Communicator." So verbally adept at inspiring many to feel good about themselves and their country, Ronald Reagan now suffers the debilitating effects of Alzheimers disease.

And wealth—as one person put it, "The futility of riches is stated in two places, the Bible, and the income tax form."

How about excitement? Is our sense of importance found in a continuous whirl of activity? We can become addicted to the adrenaline high of constant busyness, and race about from one event to the next, searching for fulfillment.

Perhaps in the course of life's many involvements, we may even have the privilege of performing some sensational public service, such as the scientist who helped predict the eruption of Mount Pinatubo, a volcano in the Philippines. His prediction preserved many lives, and at the last moment, he and his team of scientists rushed about in the dreadful darkness of falling ash, to escape with their own lives. What I found most interesting, however, were the questions he asked when it was all over, and the excitement had finally faded.

"What do you do now?" he inquired. "What do you do for an encore?"

A similiar question was asked by the astronaut, Charles Duke, who in the early '70's, was one of the privileged few to actually set foot upon the moon. When he returned to earth, he also faced that query, "What am I going to do now?"

Indeed, what is it that gives life meaning when the things we've been depending on to make us feel important are suddenly gonewhen we're faced with change or loss?

Can we still feel valuable as human beings? Can we retain a sense of self-worth? This goes to the heart of what our lives are all about.

The fact is, our value as individuals is not contingent upon our position in society, our possessions, activities, or abilities. While these things contribute to a sense of well-being, we should never allow ourselves to be intimidated into a feeling of inferiority because of the absence of such. Our worth does not change because our circumstances change.

What we must remember is that the true value of life is found in the Giver of life. Our worthiness springs from that impartial source, —from the One who regards every human being as significant.

I read a little story which illustrates precisely why each of us have value, whatever our circumstance in life.

Muretus, a Christian scholar of the l6th century, fell ill while on a journey. Those called in to treat his case failed to recognize him. He looked so much like an "ordinary" citizen that they said, "Let's try an experiment on him. He looks unimportant."

In the adjoining room, Muretus overheard their remarks, and replied, "Call no man cheap [or valueless] for whom Christ died."

That response identifies so well, our strongest source of self-worth!

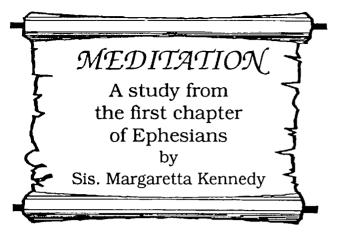
What Is He Worth?

Not infrequently one hears the query, "Wonder what he is worth?" By this the questioner is asking, "How much money does he have? How much property? What is the size of his holdings?"

If a man has a large bank account, lives in a beautiful home in a restricted residential district, drives an expensive car, takes long and costly trips to the far reaches of the world, and in many similar ways evidences wealth, we think of him as being worth a lot. Actually, he may be next to worthless. If he lacks character, integrity, and is devoid of spiritual life, he is of little worth to himself or to anyone else. If what he has was gained by dishonest practices or is ill-gotten, he has sold himself for a mess of pottage.

The worth of a man is determined by what he is, his relationship to other men, and to God, as well as what he does with his time, his abilities, and his opportunities. What he is determines what he is worth!

—Selected



The apostle Paul, faithful servant, valiant messenger and incomparable ambassador of Jesus Christ, in the salutation of many of his letters to the different churches, used this greeting: "Grace be to you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ." Here are two great words of the Christian faith—grace and peace.

The word "grace" has two main ideas, something lovely, and a gift. Grace is always that which is lovely, attractive, charming. There must be loveliness, charm and beauty in the Christian life. Christianity which is unattractive is not really Christianity. In a life that is filled with the fruit of the spirit; love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance, one can see the beauty of true Christianity.

Grace also describes a gift, something which would be impossible for man to obtain for himself, something he does not deserve. God's dealings with us, God's gifts to us, are bestowed upon us because of His great love for us. When we use the word grace we must think of the beauty, the loveliness of the Christian life, and of the free, undeserved love and favor of God. We think of the greatest of all gifts to mankind, the Son of God, Jesus Christ our Saviour.

The Greek word for peace is translated from the Hebrew word, "shalom." Shalom means, "All that makes for man's greatest good, all that is thought to make life truly worth living." Christian peace is not dependent on outward circumstances. A man might have all the treasures, all the pleasures the world has to offer, and yet not have peace. On the other hand, a man might be in dire circumstances, suffering, rejected, and yet be

at perfect peace. There is only one way to find peace. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 5:1.

"Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me All His wonderful passion and purity. Oh thou Saviour divine, all my nature refine Till the beauty of Jesus my Saviour be seen in me."

(To be continued next month.)

A New and Living Way

By Sis. Fern Stubblesield

"Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised)." Hebrews 10:19-23.

Under the law, the high priest alone entered the holiest place once a year after he had offered sin offerings, first for himself and for the sins of the people. When the fullness of time came Jesus offered Himself by His death on the cross. The veil of the temple was rent from top to bottom. Now we have boldness, through His blood to enter right into that holiest place. We have the blessed privilege of drawing near to God with a true heart in full assurance of faith. Our hearts are no longer condemned because they have been fully cleansed from sin by the blood of Jesus. What a precious privilege we have by this new and living way.

The cost was great—Christ's death on the cross, to give us this privilege and duty. Let us ever be faithful to "hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised)."

"The blossom cannot tell what becomes of its odor; and no man can tell what becomes of his influence."

—Henry Ward Beecher

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).

(Second class postage paid at Guthrie, OK)

Notice to subscribers: Whenever you move or change your address, please write us at once, giving your old and new address, and include your zip code number. The post office now charges 35¢ to notify us of each change of address.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

P. O. Box 518, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, OK 73044 Office phone numbers: 405-282-1479, 800-767-1479; fax number: 405-282-6318; home phone: 405-282-6170.

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Editorials

It is a pleasure to bring into your home another edition of the *Faith and Victory* paper. Although it seems we no sooner get one issue of the paper out than it is again time to begin working on another, I do not consider it a burden. On the contrary, often we are blessed as we review and edit the material that you, our readers, have sent in. I trust that you receive as much of a blessing from it as we do.

Although it isn't always possible to print every letter, article, filler or poem received, we encourage you to continue to send in what the Lord lays on your heart.

As we read the Bible, many gems of truth spur us spiritually to a closer walk with the Lord. One of these special passages is found in Ephesians 4:19-23.

"Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. But ye have not so learned Christ; If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind."

It is a lofty, yet obtainable goal to learn Christ. It is not enough to learn of Christ. The apostle Paul was writing to some who had heard of Christ and even had a profession, but he said they had not learned Christ. To practice doctrine, precept or ceremony of religion does not guarantee that we have learned Christ. We learn Christ by a spiritual rebirth, accepting the Holy Spirit into our hearts, and through a continued relationship with God.

There are many professing Christians who would have us believe that it is possible to know Christ and yet commit sin. The apostle Paul emphatically states that this was not learned from Christ. He taught and practiced a life of purity. The woman who was caught in adultery learned mercy from Christ, yet she also acquired an understanding that she should go and sin no more. (John 8:11.)

I read once of a funeral in which the preacher, in speaking of the departed said, "This man was not a Christian, but he was a respected sinner." I read also of a man who taught his only son not to abandon vice, but to be a gentleman in it. This is not the way we learn Christ. Jesus

taught a change of life. (John 5:14.) And the Holy Spirit will help us have a clear vision of what Christ is like if we will listen carefully to His promptings.

Many things which we do in our daily routine have no moral implications. In these actions we should simply be sure that they glorify God. (I Cor. 10:31.) If there is a moral principle involved, we would do well to ask ourselves if we learned it from Christ. If not, it would be profitable to analyze where we did learn it. Where did the suggestion or knowledge of it come from? This is a close and challenging walk, but one which offers a great reward.

In light of the approaching Thanksgiving season, we think of what the Psalmist David wrote, "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High." Psalms 92:1. I believe every sincere saint feels the same way. It is never out of order to thank the Lord.

Once a powerful tornado swept through a community and demolished a store building from which the owner and several other people escaped unhurt. The store owner said he prayed, thanking God for keeping them safe through the ordeal. A local preacher heard about it and said that he thought it was a selfish prayer, especially since he was sure that others in the area had been killed.

It is possible to have a selfish attitude in offering thanksgiving. This was illustrated by the Pharisee who prayed, "...God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are...."

If the store owner had prayed, "Lord, I am thankful that the people killed by the tornado were members of the Jones family," then that indeed would have constituted selfishness in thanksgiving. But that was not his prayer.

Do you possess good health? Thank God for it. Do you have plenty to eat? Thank God for it. Do you have comfortable surroundings? Then thank God for it. But don't stop there. Make intercession to God for those who are ill and needy. It is also good to put wings on your prayers by helping others as much as it is in your power to do so.

From October 18th to the 22nd, the Guthrie congregation enjoyed the special blessing of a spiritual revival. Bro. Keith Fuller, from Akron, OH, ministered the gospel before leaving Guthrie to begin revival services in the Oklahoma

City congregation. His plans are to be there from October 24th through the 29th.

We would like to extend congratulations to Bro. Ralph and Sis. Dorothy Wilkins of the Guthrie congregation. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 28th.

Also, further notice is made in this paper of Bro. Paul and Sis. Mary Taylor, who are celebrating 50 years together.

These anniversaries seem especially honorable and noteworthy, since in today's society, marriage vows are treated so lightly.

Our best wishes and prayers are for God's hand to continue to be upon both couples.

Good progress has been made on the Print Shop relocation project. Almost all of the dirt work has been completed. We are now in the process of gathering all the information that will be needed to get a building permit from the city. Please continue to pray for us in this undertaking.

And again, remember, "It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High."—Wayne Murphey

Prayer Requests

GA—"Please pray for me. My health is failing fast."
—Rhuie Hall

FL—"I have a light affliction and I am asking to be remembered in prayer."

-Kathleen Williams

IL—Sis. Lavena Cole desires prayer for dizziness and also a stoppage in her ears.

LA—Please pray for Sis. Patsy Turner's daughter, Sherrill Kearney, who has cancer.

AL—"Remember Emmitt's eyes, as well as mine. They seem to be getting a little weak."

-Pearlene Gerald

OK—Sis. Mary Foster has several relatives who are in need of much help.

OH—"Please pray for my sister, Revilla Villars, who is scheduled for back surgery."

-Juanita Blankenship

50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Bro. and Sis. Paul Taylor, Webb City, MO celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary October 11, 1995, with a family dinner. Their

children are Sis. Vicki Wilson of Yukon, OK and Tommy Taylor of Webb City, MO.

We wish to thank every saint who sent a card or letter, called us, thought of us or said a prayer for us.

We love the Church of God.

-Paul and Mary Lela Taylor

THANK YOU

We, the family of Mamie Lou Parks wish to thank the saints for the prayers, cards, love and sympathy that was shown to us during the illness and passing of our mother. We were deeply touched by your acts of love during our bereavement.

May God continue to bless all of you is our prayer. I am sorry that I took so long to write a thank you note, but I have been quite busy in Florida. I am thankful that He saved my mother at the 11th hour. —Betty Parks and family



WICHITA, KS MEETING REPORT

We truly thank the Lord for His blessings unto us in our meeting. Several ministers were present to bring us the precious Word of God. In the first message, Sis. Mary Lawson exhorted us to be like the tree that is planted by the river of water and not like the barren fig tree which denotes a barren professor. Sis. Theresa Gaines has truly been blessed by God since her fall in the spring. She was able to be here and preached to us about prayer and watching. The Lord gave Bro. Vada McMillian the strength to come after healing him of the flu. He had some precious truths about the love of Jesus. Bro. Otis Hill received strength from God in his illness, and came and stayed several days. He exhorted us to live a successful Christian life, and assured us that God can supply all of our needs. Sis. Lucille Johnson has an ailment that is aggravated by rainy weather, but the Lord stood by her and blessed her during the rain and cool spell. She urged us to check and see if there is anything we lack. The Lord truly blessed those dear ones and proved that through weakness He proves Himself strong.

We were exhorted to give our life to Jesus, and also to be strong and of good courage by Sis. Marsha Corteway. Sis. Bonnie Riley gave a solemn exhortation explaining iniquity and how people can still have the inbred nature instead of God's nature, and therefore have carnal and iniquitous ways. Bro. Gordon Humprey exhorted us to behold the love of God, and that we must acknowledge our condition and need of God.

Many were blessed in the meeting and have a greater determination to be true and faithful to God and His cause. With a sharpened vision, may we all go forward conquering and to conquer. We appreciate everyone who was able to be with us in the meeting.

-Submitted by Shirley Knight

GUTHRIE. OK SPECIAL SERVICES

Come Worship With Us
Sunday, November 12, 1995
Sunday School—9:30 a.m.
Worship—10:30 a.m.

Dinner will be served in the dining hall
at noon
Special Singing—2:00 p.m.
Worship—7:00 p.m.
For more information contact
Bro. Charles Elwell: (405) 282-0743.

LORANGER, LA ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Loranger, LA Assembly Meeting services are announced to begin 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, November 22nd and continue daily through Sunday the 26th. Come praying and expecting God to bless the meeting.

There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brothers. Power and water hookups are provided for those with campers. Meals will be served and expenses met by freewill offerings. From Loranger, go two miles south and about three and one-half miles east on Hwy. 40.

For those traveling I-55, the grounds are about 10 miles east of the Tickfaw exit (take Hwy. 442 east which runs into Hwy. 40.)

For more information, write Nelson Doolittle,

Rt. 1, Box 192, Loranger, LA 70446. (504) 878-6111. The chapel phone is (504) 878-2788.

CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY MEETING

The California State Annual Assembly Meeting at Pacoima, California will convene, Lord willing, on December 27th, 1995, and continue through December 31st, 1995.

There will be three services daily. We anticipate God's blessings upon every service, His rich anointing on every message, souls saved, sanctified and bodies healed.

For more information you may contact Bro. Edward V. Davenport (909) 887-4130, Bro. Calvin Hobbs (909) 875-2887 or the Sunset Guest Home (818) 899-2022.

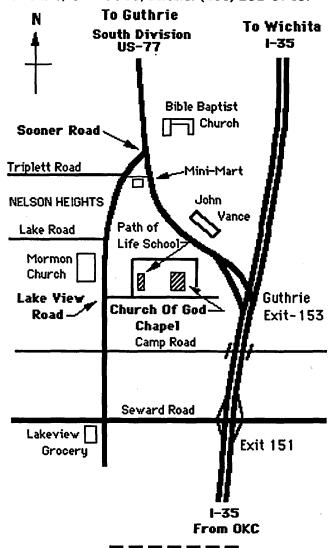
OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The 89th annual Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting of the Church of God will be held at Guthrie, OK, from December 22 through December 31, 1995 at the new campground located south of Guthrie. A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this annual gathering of God's people in the central area of the U.S. The first service will be held Friday evening, December 22nd at 7:30 P.M. Daily worship services throughout the remainder of the meeting will start at 10:15 A.M., 2:00 P.M., and 7:30 P.M. There will also be a morning prayer service at 9:00 A.M. and a youth service at 6:00 P.M.

The new campground is located east off of Sooner Road on Lake View Road which is a little over four tenths of a mile south of the intersection of South Division and Sooner Road (See Map). All who come will be cared for. The expenses of the meeting will be met as usual by freewill offerings. Come share in the blessings of the Lord and enjoy the new campground facilities He has so graciously provided.

We especially urge the saints in Oklahoma and the surrounding states to attend this meeting. Pastors and gospel workers, encourage your congregation to spend part of their Christmas holidays at this meeting. Come praying with a burden for the unsaved and for all those who need help in soul and body. Come help us close out the year with victory.

Please send all contributions for the coming State Assembly meeting directly to the State Treasurer, Sister Brenda Wilkins, Rt. 6 Box 797, Guthrie, OK 73044. For more information concerning the meeting, contact the pastor, Bro. Charles Elwell, 5308 Meadow Lake Drive, Guthrie, OK 73044, Phone: (405) 282-0743.





Beginning with the November 1995 issue, the Faith and Victory will now be offered on cassette tape. The price will be \$2.00 per cassette or \$22.00 per year for 11 issues. If interested, please direct all correspondence to: Mike Woodruff, 916 W. Mansur Ave., Guthrie, OK 73044. Phone: (405) 282-3310.



WV—Dear friends in Christ: Enclosed is my dollar for your wonderful paper which I stop everything to read as soon as I receive, and then I pass it on to another friend or neighbor. I am 76 years old and have done very hard work (in a laundry) all my life, and now I am trying to survive on a very small check each month. I have arthritis very badly, and only due to the graciousness of Jesus am I able to get around. Please pray for my condition.

Here is one of the many poems I have written about my Lord.

Thanksgiving Day

Dear Lord, upon this Thanksgiving day
I kneel upon my knees to pray.
To thank You for each and every thing,
And all the bounties that You bring.
I thank You for the food I eat
And all the things that make my life complete;
For home and health and friends and kin,
And pardon for my every sin:
And all the gifts that You bestowed,
And all the wealth that You endowed.
My thanks will always be,
Until Your holy face I see.

Very sincerely, —Christine Butters

IN—Dearest saints at Guthrie: It has already been a year since I began receiving a publication that has changed my life. The Faith and Victory led me to the truth of God's Word. I love reading the faith-inspiring articles every month.

The devil often gets me in such a slump that he almost convinces me I am backslidden. Praise God, He brings me back through all of it.

Pray for me that I will continue to abstain from the things of the world.

Again, thank you for your prayers and support of this past year.

Yours in Christ,

-Bro. Christopher A. Rothbauer

KY—Dear Bro. Murphey and Co-Workers: We truly appreciate the Faith and Victory paper. We receive much encouragement from it. We ask God's blessings on those that put their time and effort in the printing shop.

God is blessing us in spirit and in health. Also, prayers are being answered for us. We feel so unworthy of the precious love and tender mercies He has bestowed on us. We are learning to thank Him also for the trials He permits to come our way. Through them we are strengthened by His grace. He always knows best for His children. We are praying for all the saints and covet their prayers.

Christian love.

-Sis. Kay Griffith and Sis. Gertrude Clark

LA—Dear Bro. Wayne and Co-Workers: Greetings in Jesus! How I thank God for His loving care of us and all the beauties of nature that He has put here for our enjoyment. How I love the fall of the year. When I was able to walk better I used to love to walk in the woods in the fall and gather dried grasses, seed pods, leaves, etc., that I could preserve and enjoy all winter.

I enjoy the *Faith and Victory* paper from cover to cover, and always look forward to its arrival. I especially enjoyed the poem on the front of the October paper....

I usually give my papers to others to read, but some I can't bear to part with because I like to read them again and again.

I would appreciate an interest in your prayers for two very urgent unspoken requests, and for my 84 year old sister. She has just had surgery for cancer and is taking radiation. Also two very good friends have cancer.

I always pray for all the requests in the Faith and Victory, and for the needs in the Church.

I am happy to hear that the work has begun on the new Print Shop property....

Your Sister in Christ, —Sybil Goldsberry

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus. I really enjoyed the October *Faith and Victory*. I liked the poem on the front....

The Lord is so good to me. I surely am planning to make heaven my home when He is through with me down here. I don't know when that will be, but I know I am planning, by His help, to be ready when He calls.

Love and prayers, —Sister Emma Dilley

OH—Dear Bro. Murphey: Greetings in Jesus name to all of the Lord's workers there at the Print Shop. May God continue to abundantly bless you all in your labor of love. I really appreciate the Faith and Victory, Beautiful Way paper and all of your literature. I try to share it with others as often as I can.

I really thank the Lord for being a part of the family of God.

Please continue to pray for me, my loved ones and the congregation here in Akron. Also please continue to pray that more souls will be born into the Kingdom of God before it is too late.

I thank the Lord that I am much encouraged to press the battle on by the help of the Lord....

-Sis. Janice Shaw

KY—Dear saints: Greetings in the name of Jesus. We got the *Faith and Victory* one day last week, and enjoyed it so much. I love the testimonies, messages and all.

I appreciate all of your prayers. There are days in which I feel better than others, but praise God, I am trusting Him for healing. When we have Him we are complete in Him. Oh, how I love Jesus. He has done so much for my family and myself.

Please continue to pray for us here. I am praying for you there and all saints elsewhere. Christian love, —Sister Mary Hughes

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey: I enjoy the Faith and Victory paper, and thank you for mailing it to me.

I was 85 years old in August so I may not be here much longer, but I believe my daughter will enjoy reading the paper too. Thanks so much.

Pray for us as we need prayer very much at this time. We thank God for His promises and know they are true.

Yours in His service, —Bertha Scudder

NC—Dear Bro. Wayne and Workers: One day a friend and I were gathering shells on the beach. She noticed footprints in the sand where someone had been there earlier to pick up the best shells. She likened that to our communion with God. We get our richest blessings by rising early to pray. We talked about how it takes a storm to bring up the most beautiful shells from the depths of the ocean. The storms of life can work in the same way. Difficulties and sorrows send us to our knees. By seeking help from our

heavenly Father, He in turn blesses us with the "true riches." Isaiah 61:3 says that God will "...give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified." I thank God for all that He has been to me.

We appreciate all the workers at the Lord's Print Shop. We can't express the blessing we receive from each paper. We love all the saints. Thank you for your prayers for us.

-Sis. Lynne Millis

CA—Dear saints: Holy greetings in the Lord, the One who keeps us saved from day to day. We look forward to receiving the *Faith and Victory* and thank the Lord for the inspiring articles and testimonies.

Recently the thought of reverencing and adoring God has been with me, and of how it requires humility to be able to comprehend even a small portion of His majesty. This was followed with another thought. How can this humility be attained? The answer came clearly. It is through obedience, and obedience to the will of God is the greatest act of humility. Christ set the example for us. "...He (Christ) humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Phil. 2:8. Thank the Lord for the simplicity of His Word. What a blessed people we are that the Lord would reveal Himself to us through His Word. Why shouldn't we praise and adore Him? —Olive G. Davenport

LA—Dear Bro. Wayne and Sis. Mary: Our Lord is providing physical and spiritual strength as the days go by, just as He promised to do. Ken is bedfast now on a hospital bed, with help coming each day from Home Health. He just wants to sleep all the time, never asks for anything, and this marks the second day he is refusing all food. We don't know the future, but this I know, the situation is in God's hands. The gentleness and tenderness of his lifelong nature has a way of showing up every now and then, sometimes with just a little pat of his hand on mine. The Lord didn't give to me a strong, beautiful voice, but He gave me a little for the need at present, and Ken gave me his thanks last night with a smile and a pat of his hand after I played and sang to him, "Wonderful Peace."

I have had to ask the Lord a few times to please just "carry me" until I can recover from a

very weary state of mind in which I could not pray as I should. Then the needed rest would come.

Please pray for Ken, and for me that I can be what he needs now, someone to help him hang on to the faith he once understood.

Christian love, —Sis. Gertrude Pickett

AR—I appreciated the article, "Praying for Our Country," by Patricia Bell. It helped me know better how to pray for our country. I am glad there are those who are keeping up with what is taking place in America and our world today.

We are praying for you dear ones at the Publishing House. Please continue to pray for me. I am much better, but still very frail.

Love, —Sis. Nellie Henderson

NC—Greetings Bro. Wayne and saints: Thank you for the continuing of the Faith and Victory magazine. I am enjoying it as always—the testimonies, editorials, etc. May the Lord continue to bless the efforts that are being put forth by all in faith and love.

I thank God for the Rock of our salvation— He will never fail.

All are in our prayers.

Christian love.

-Sis. Julia Holt

GA—Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ: I just want to say how much I have enjoyed the paper you publish. It is the best Church of God literature I know of.... My brother, C.H. Haire, and his wife took this paper before they passed away. We all enjoyed the paper. But most of my family has already gone on.

Please pray for me. My health is failing fast. I will be grateful for your prayers.

A Sister in Christ, —Rhuie Hall

OK—Dear Bro. Wayne: Greetings to you today in the matchless name of Jesus. I am glad that I can say, "I'm saved today, with a determined purpose to see Jesus for myself."

Seeing Jesus makes all the difference. Peter was able to walk on the water as long as he kept his eyes on Jesus. Stephen was able to face death with victory because he saw Jesus. When we see Jesus all other things fade and lose their value, and we can say with the apostle Paul, "Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the

loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness,...but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: That I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead." Phil 3:8-11.

Because of Jesus I have hope in a dark and changing world. The song writer says, "Change and decay in all around I see; Oh, Thou who changest not, abide with me!"

There have been many changes in my life in the past several years. It is hard to believe that tomorrow, October 6, marks four years since my husband has been gone, and three years since the devastation of hurricane Andrew. December will mark one year since I have been here in Muskogee, OK. Yes, life has changed, but I can say God's steadfast love has not. Praise God! It has been difficult. Sometimes it has seemed almost overwhelming, but God has and is proving faithful.

After being in Muskogee a few months I began to wonder if I had made the right decision. The Lord comforted my heart by saving my two older sons. They had gotten away from the Lord after their dad passed. One son said he would never have gotten saved if he had stayed in Florida. It has been good to be able to attend the different meetings and to be closer to the saints.

I am so thankful for the love, prayers and help of the saints. God has used many to be a blessing and an encouragement to my family and myself. For this I am eternally grateful.

Please continue to pray for us. This year I am home schooling my two boys, Michael, who is almost 12 years old, and Jeremy who is six years old. Rachel is with me also. We are thankful how the Lord opened up a job here in Muskogee for her after nine months of only temporary work. It is something she enjoys—working with children. It is an opportunity to minister as well as work. The job is at an Indian Children's Home.

I still have a prayer request regarding my house in Goulds, Florida. Also, pray for the saints there. They still haven't been able to rebuild the chapel which was destroyed by hurricane Andrew. They have had many setbacks. Pray that the will of God will prevail.

Sincerely. —Sis. Mary Hargrave

KS—Dear saints: Greetings from Merriam, Kansas, to all parts of the world. I am saved and encouraged to live for God. This is a letter of thanks for how the Lord has touched my body.

Over eighteen months ago, I came down with the flu, which left me with a slight cough whenever I ventured into the cold air. This cough persisted and grew worse over the next year. On my job, as a teacher of the Deaf, I was having to leave the classroom due to the coughing spells. I was told that it could be a reoccurrence of my childhood asthma.

By April of this year, I felt that something was seriously wrong. I suffered from aching joints, weight loss, continuous coughing, shortness of breath, and fatigue (even after a night's rest). Eventually, x-rays showed that I had a large mass on my right lung. Immediately, I was admitted to the hospital for diagnosis and was kept for nine days. They ruled out cancer, Lupus, Legionnaire's disease, etc., but had no definite cause for my illness.

After returning home I grew progressively worse, becoming almost bedfast. With further tests, pneumonia was ruled out in July. For the month of August, I was treated for tuberculosis because of my contact with public school children. Finally, in September, I was officially diagnosed as having "sarcvidosis," a rare disease that inflames the body's lymph nodes. Since that time I have been on the mend. I am no longer aching, coughing or losing weight. My strength is slowly coming back. I am now able to care for my own personal needs and drive, but not teach.

This illness brought my life to a halt in our fast-paced society. The words "routine" and "independent" were meaningless. It was the prayers of the saints, the personal care by family members and the support of friends that brought me through. I have learned many lessons from this experience and expect to learn many more. I truly thank the Lord for all He has done.

Thank you, saints, for the prayers, calls, visits, cards, flowers, food and tapes. Your kindness and thoughtfulness was and is deeply appreciated. Please continue to remember me in your prayers that I be faithful.

-Gertrude L. Lounds

CO—Dear loved ones in Christ: Greetings! We have matured in faith by the grace of God and His Holy Spirit, and are truly encouraged through the Faith and Victory. Our prayers are lifted up for you, especially since the flood damage you received at the Print Shop. The Faith and Victory has clearly put forth many important principles. God needs us to grow to be more like our Savior. May He be exalted forevermore in all we say and do. We praise the almighty God for changing our hearts....

We rejoice in that the Lord has interested five families to have home Bible studies and fellowship. Our first one was a real joy.

May God be with you in each new day. In His love, —Mr. and Mrs. David Koenig

Croatia, Europe—Dear friends: Thank you for your literature packet which you sent to me. It is a great help for us in Croatia to have good spiritual food for our soul.

We have had a very bad time in the last severalyears. Due to the Civil War about 350,000 people are refugees without a home. In our area that war is not over. Please pray for us....

Grace be with you all, —D. Huis



Mexico Report...

September 21, 1995—Dear Brother Wayne and all the workers there: It is with a grateful heart that we begin this very long-overdue letter to you. I am grateful and thankful that I can still see well enough to write and read and to drive a car and see people. I can tell that my eyes are steadily getting worse, but I do thank the Lord I can see as good as I can. I also am feeling better now than I have felt in years. I can hardly believe how nice it is to feel good. I have so much to thank the Lord for and I appreciate every blessing, great and small.

We were able to attend the last part of the meeting in Pacoima, CA, and it was truly a blessing to our souls. It seemed I could feel a good spirit and a sense of caring, peace and

tranquillity. The messages were just precious to my soul. There was a goodly number of folks out to meeting and a lot of young folks took part in the services. It was all very good.

Before the meeting in Pacoima we went to Mexico where we used to live and visited in several homes. We always endeavor to lead the conversation in a way that we can talk about the Lord and His goodness and spiritual things. In some homes it is pretty hard to do that. But we felt again that God showed us to go, and we feel that the trip was in His hands, and the results also. Some folks still seem interested. Others seem to show no interest at all. We visited some who are quite elderly and sick, and they are the ones that we carry such a burden for. We are not discouraged, but just want to be faithful and go and do what we feel the Lord would have us do. and ask the Lord to do the rest

We want to thank each of you for your prayers for us and the work in Mexico. We want the work to go on and to grow, that souls will be saved, encouraged and strengthened. Eternity is out there just a few steps ahead for a lot of folks, and some don't seem to realize what danger they are living in.

I will close for this writing, trusting that heaven's richest blessings are yours today and that your courage is high.

With Christian love, —Sis. Edith Lara

From India...

September 14, 1995—Dear Bro. Wayne Murphey and dear Brothers and Sisters in America: Greetings to all of you dear ones in the gracious name of Jesus Christ.

We have reached towards the end of the Monsoon rain season this year. We have not had very many bad consequences this year.

During the Onam festival holidays last week, we conducted special street meetings in the south and the north of Kerala. God helped me to visit our congregations in the north the last two weeks. By the grace of God, church activities are going on fine in all our congregations.

Please pray for us as we do for you.

Yours in Him, —John Varghese



Kytus Spears was born May 30, 1931, to Mr. and Mrs. Boley Spears in Boley, OK. He attended school at West End, Boley Schools and also in Bakersfield, CA.

Kytus went to an altar of prayer for the salvation of his soul. He attended church services at the Church of God in Los Angeles, CA.

Kytus married Novella Stevenson of Boley, OK on March 2, 1963. To this union one son was born. They named him Kyle. Kytus had a desire for the Lord to take him as he was going through so much suffering. The Lord took him on September 12, 1995.

Kytus leaves to cherish his homegoing, his wife, Novella Spears, of the home in Carson, CA; two sons, Kyle Spears of Los Angeles, CA and Larry Spears (Yoko) and family of Boley, OK; two stepsons, Hershel (Sylvia) and family of Spencer, OK, and Gregory (Kokey) and wife, Mary and family of Palmdale, CA; two sisters Anna Mae (Caldwell) Thompson of Boley, OK; and Gwendolyn (Ted) Arnold of Perris, CA; his dad, Boley Spears of Boley, OK and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were conducted in the Church of God chapel at Boley, OK by Sis. Anna Mae Thompson and Sis. Beatrice Alexander. Interment was in the Boley, OK cemetery.

Lottie Rebecca Joiner Porter was born June 13, 1905, in Jasper County, MS to William M. and Carrie McCarty James.

She passed away September 10, 1995, at the Golden Rule Home in Shawnee, OK. She was 90 years old.

On October 5, 1926, she was married to John E. Joiner. He preceded her in death on November 20, 1955. She later married O. C. Porter in November, 1960, at Shreveport, LA. They lived in Guthrie, OK for many years.

Sis. Lottie was called to the ministry and the Lord touched many lives through her service to Him and her love and concern for others. Whether preaching, exhorting or writing, it was evident God's Spirit was upon her.

Her parents, seven brothers and five sisters preceded her in death. Survivors include her husband, O. C. Porter, of Guthrie, OK; one son, Howell Joiner and his wife, Bea, of Tulsa, OK; one step-son, Carroll Porter of Guthrie, OK; one step-daughter, Anecia Wall of Guthrie, OK; one brother, Monroe James of Loranger, LA; one sister, Lila Winstead of Little Rock, AR; several grandchildren, several great-grandchildren and a host of loving friends.

Funeral services were held September 14, 1995, at the Oak Grove Church of God chapel, Loranger, LA, with interment in the Oak Grove Cemetery. The service was conducted by Bro. Chuck Elwell.

In the beautiful hills one hundred miles south of St. Louis, MO, on September 18th, 1914, the home of Frank and Katie (Elder) Marler was blessed with the arrival of a baby boy. This child was named Louie Lester Marler, at the request of an uncle.

Louie was the eldest son among the eight children of Frank and Katie, two of whom died in infancy. Louie and his younger brother, Willard, assumed a great part of the responsibility of caring for the family, which also included Cassie, his widowed sister, and her two-year-old daughter, Viola.

Louie's greatest joy was his close loving family, and it was touching to see how they loved reading the Bible. All of his brothers and sisters have passed on except Ruth Rachels of St. Louis, and Virgie Flynn of Shawnee.

In 1942, Louie entered the armed forces and served for over three years, traveling over much of the world. Upon discharge, he joined the family on the farm, where he lived for approximately forty years, before moving to the Golden Rule complex in Shawnee, OK.

As a young man, Louie was considered a "happy-go-lucky" person, but deep inside he realized life was serious. He had a desire for the peace and happiness that his mother and sister were enjoying and his intentions were to marry only when he was worthy of a Christian wife and home.

In about 1948, at a tent meeting held by Bros. Egbert Allen, Orr and Reynolds, Louie gave his heart to God. He began reading the New Testament, and did so seven times. He continued reading God's Word throughout his healthy years. This firmly fixed his faith and trust in

God, which helped him bear his afflictions with courage.

Louie met Evodna Thurman at Neosho, Missouri, at the National Campmeeting. They married on December 23rd, 1951.

Louie's happiest times were when his three children arrived, David, Melonie, and Louis Donald. He often said, "I've had a good life and a wonderful family."

He was consistent in having family worship morning and night, and also in taking the family to all the campmeetings he could. Only rarely did he miss attending the Guthrie Assembly and Monark meetings.

His prayer was for the church he loved so well and to have an unbroken family circle in heaven.

Louie departed this life on September 26th, 1995, at the age of 81 years and one week.

Services were conducted in the Guthrie Church of God chapel by Bros. Wayne Murphey, Charles Elwell, and Carl Shaffer. Burial was in Memory Gardens Cemetery, also in Guthrie.

Survivors include his wife, Evodna, of Shawnee, OK, sons Louis Donald of Kennett, MO, David and wife, Pam, of Sapulpa, OK, and daughter, Melonie Whitson and Marshall, of Birmingham, AL, as well as seven grandchildren: Sheri, Greg, Monica, Curtis, Amber, Warren and Jason. Other relatives include Louie's two sisters, an aunt, a sister-in-law, two brothers-in-law, and many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Helen Gee Pomerlee was born in Coffeeville, MS, February 24, 1950, to Mr. and Mrs. Henry and Ida Gee. She departed this earthly life to be with the Lord on Monday, October 9, 1995, at the age of forty-five years, seven months and fifteen days.

She was united in holy matrimony to Wesley Pomerlee III on November 10, 1969. To this union three children were born; two daughters, Jennifer and Malissa Pomerlee; and one son, Wesley Pomerlee IV; three grandchildren, Marquis, Markyta and Keeshaune Pomerlee.

Sister Helen was indoctrinated in the truth and received full salvation on August 20, 1983. She was nurtured in the evening light Church of God. Sister Helen was faithful to God in all her labor in the Lord. She served faithfully as a Sunday School teacher for ten years until her earthly death. She was a true example of leading and training up in all the Word of God.

Her favorite scripture which she used daily when something adverse came her way was, "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord:.." Psalm 37:23. And so she lived a life of dedication and service before the Lord.

Sister Helen was a faithful wife and mother. She loved her family and touched many lives. Her duties here on earth were finished when she answered God's call.

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Psalm 116:15.

A young people's person,
That's what she was.
In youth was her fruition;
She taught them with a charming life
And a kind, sweet disposition.

—Bro. Burbridge Copeland and Sis. Judith Copeland

HOME LIFE



A Woman's Routine

By Connie Sorrell

Remember the story of the Little Red Hen? Remember how that industrious little hen decided to plant some kernels of wheat? The task looked so big to her that she felt she needed help. She asked a duck, a pig, and a cat to help her with the planting but each one gave an excuse. So she planted the wheat herself. She needed help to hoe the wheat, water the wheat and reap the wheat, but each time she asked her three friends they offered an excuse. After every round of excuses she would say, "Then I will do it myself." And she did.

That little red hen rushed around in circles attending her wheat. Finally, she was successful in producing a nice loaf of crusty bread. Then the quacky duck, lazy pig, and sly cat wanted to help her eat the good-smelling bread. She told them they couldn't have a bite because they had not helped her with any of the work. "I will eat it myself," she said. And she did.

Now when I was a little girl, I thought that little red hen didn't act very Christ-like at the end. After all, my mother taught me to share with others. When I grew older I could see the work ethic that was illustrated.

Anyway, I always felt sorry for that lonesome little hen. She worked so hard, so faithfully. It seemed that she deserved a considerate friend, someone to lighten her load or even a smile of encouragement. But the little red hen didn't have a pity party—she kept busy.

I believe every woman has times in her life when she can relate to that little red hen. The hours flutter by and we fly with them. There is always one more meal to plan, one more load of laundry, one more mess to clean, a list of groceries to buy, children to supervise, more errands to run and another bill to pay. Soon a woman finds herself struggling for breath. Emotionally, she calls for support: "Help! I'm having a stress attack!" If no encouragement comes along, she toughens up inside. "I will make it myself!"

Usually some trials come with the daily routine. The roof has a leak, the dog chases the mailman so that now the mail won't be delivered, the mousetraps aren't catching the mice fast enough, some of the children come down sick and the washer won't spin out anymore. Now a Christian woman thinks to pray. (The little red hen forgot to do that.) "Help, Lord, I have some real needs!"

Sometimes the answer comes via a Mr. Fix-It man. Often these problems take money and a lot of patience. This is when a woman needs another woman. Shared grievances are onehalf less heavy to bear.

Just when we think all the problems of our lifetime are solvable, a really ugly trial can raise its head. A loved one becomes terminally ill, a sudden death changes our life, a child goes wayward into sin, financial disasters come our way, a flood or fire destroys our house, misunderstandings and pain may sever friendships. In a normal life span, we are sure to encounter some trouble that will send us to our knees in need of help.

Then a woman wears her SOS look. Her eyes are sad, her step is heavy, and her shoulders sag. She doesn't want to make it herself—she wants to die—something the little red hen didn't even think about. She needs a soft shoulder to cry on, a firm arm to lean on and an encouraging

pat on the back. Even the Holy Spirit maketh intercession for her with groanings that can not be uttered. (Rom. 8:26.)

The Lord is faithful to assure her but often He asks another woman or a group of women to lift her load and encourage her. (Gal. 6:2.) If every woman is so busy with her own daily routine, grievances and burdens that she does not see the need in a sister's life, who will have the soft shoulder and the extended firm arm?

Suppose a friendly neighbor had knocked on the kitchen door right when the little red hen was kneading her bread dough.

"Oh, come in, friend," she might say. "I was just making some bread."

"I wish I could make bread," would sigh the tired neighbor. "My hands stiffen so with arthritis that I cannot work the bread anymore."

Should the little red hen share her bread? Would she be too busy to see that her neighbor also needs encouragement? Let us learn to be sensitive to the needs of other women. A smile, a word of encouragement, or a slice of freshly baked bread can lift up another until she is able to fly again.

We need each other. Friendships and women support groups are very important in these stressful times. To those who feel alone, find a dependable friend to pray and confide in. Not one of us is a superwoman who can do it all "by myself." If you try to be, you will probably burn your bread.

Partial List of Books Available

A Hive of Busy Bees by Effie M. Williams. An excellent book for children. 118 pages, bound in a heavy paper cover. Price, \$1.50.

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For postage and handling, add 90¢ for the first dollar and 9¢ for each additional dollar of total order.

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Excerpts Taken From Nov., 1970 Faith and Victory

"Sister Janice Allen, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Murphy Allen of Senath, Mo., has volunteered her services here at the Lord's Print Shop to help get out the gospel literature. Her father brought her to Guthrie on Oct. 6. Sister Janice loves the Lord and desires to make her life count for Him in His service. She is learning and taking hold of the work real well....

"A large box of books was sent with Bro. Mart Samons for free distribution in a new field in West Virginia where he was to start a meeting on October 13....

"The story is told of a man who felt around in his pocket on Sunday morning to find a penny. He thought he had found one, and quickly dropped it into the offering. After he reached home, to his surprise, he found that he had dropped in a tendollar gold piece instead of the penny. He said to his wife, 'Well, it can't be helped now, and anyway, God will give me credit for my ten dollars.' His wife answered, 'You miser! God will give you credit for the penny you meant to put in.' God sees the heart. He knows how you give, and He will bless you accordingly. Those who give cheerfully, from a heart of love, are those who are blessed in their souls from giving. Those who give grudgingly, find it a painful operation to part with their money; therefore, a grievous wound is left in their soul instead of God's blessing of joy and peace."

-Lawrence Pruitt