

# FAITH AND VICTORY

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## 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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## Pass Me Not

By Bro. Carlos Doolittle

"Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down...from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isaiah 55:6-11.

God is everywhere. The Apostle Paul preached to the Athenians on Mars' Hill, "That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, and move, and have our being...." Acts 17:27-28. I have been challenged over the past year, as I follow the Lord, to be intentionally, deliberately aware of His continual Divine presence. What a comfort! However, when the scripture says, "Seek ye the LORD while he may be found,..." it suggests to me that, though He is always near, there are certain times that He is especially endeavoring to reveal Himself to me.

The passage says that the Word of the Lord does not return, or retreat, unto Him void. It shall accomplish and prosper. Thank the Lord! But, I don't see every soul responding with joyous acceptance to the Word.

Yet, every visit from the Lord to a circumstance, or a life, changes things. It makes a difference when God comes on the scene. In the case of a life, it changes that person eternally. It has the potential for great good—multiplied goodnesses. Because the potential is so great, to reject it brings a change also. Someone can reject me with no great consequence, but when the Lord visits, that's a different story. Rejecting the Lord can put a distance between Him and us. Perhaps it's not so much that He moves away, as that the soul has been moved—been changed.

We sometimes sing the song by the blind poet, Fanny Crosby, "Pass Me Not, O Gentle

### Contents

Pass Me Not .....	1
Standing Alone .....	3
Editorials .....	4
Prayer Requests .....	6
Meeting Reports and Notices .....	7
Letters from the Readers .....	9
Obituaries .....	9
Standing Alone (Continued) .....	10
If You Were the Only One .....	10
Self-Love and Pure Love .....	10
Uses of the Bible .....	11
The Walk to Emmaus .....	11
How Do You Classify? .....	12

Savior." It is a beautiful prayer in song, and I often find those words expressing my desire as I follow after the Lord. Perhaps it seems to be an altar-call song, but I get more from it than just that. Thinking of the words "pass me not," I picture the disciples during a stormy night on the sea of Galilee. (Matthew 14; Mark 6) It probably was not an unfamiliar scene to them. Boating was as ordinary to some of them as driving a car or truck is to me. Contrary winds were not a welcomed circumstance, but these winds had prevailed often against these men. Surely, it was another day that just would not end.

You see, if I had been there among them, my "bucket would have been full" long before. They had recently learned of the martyr's death of their friend, John the Baptist, and had retired into a secluded place, but the needy, hungry crowds had followed there. Jesus, moved with compassion, had ministered to those needs, even to the point of miraculously feeding them. Then He hastily dismissed them all and sent the disciples across the sea. Surely the disciples' minds were full as they finally took down the sail and put out the oars. I can imagine them doing it silently, almost mechanically—very few words.

Then a bad situation turned perceptibly worse. A human form was visible through the dimness. Even a tired rational mind knows that no human can walk on liquid water, so the "rational" conclusion would be the appearance of some troubled, restless spirit—a "ghost." Have you ever experienced a nightmare in which you were pursued and unable to run away? These sturdy men had already exhausted themselves in rowing, and now, in the fourth watch of the night, this! And yet, it was Jesus, the Master of the seas, all along.

Mark 6:48, "And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them." Perhaps, Jesus would have walked on by and been waiting for them on the other side, but they "cried out for fear." I don't know what you cry out when you face sudden fear, but for me, it is something from the depths of my heart, like "O, God" or "Lord, help!" Jesus heard that cry and answered straightway. He did not pass by them on His way

to Gennesaret. "While on others Thou art calling do not pass me by."

Now Peter, dear ole Peter. . . we sensible folks look on Peter with awe and shake our heads. Perhaps Peter was just simply impetuous. We know he had bravado and thoughtlessness in pretty good mixture, but I think there's a beautiful lesson here. This is the same Peter that hopped out of the boat to go to land when the resurrected Christ was waiting on the shore with fish for their breakfast.

Here in this fourth watch of the night, Peter asked to be nearer to Jesus. The most compelling point to me is that Jesus told him, "Come."

"Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon him while He is near." Peter did. I want to also. Call me foolish, and you may, because you might see me start to sink. The Lord is too wise to waste an opportunity. He says, "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways." The disciples learned twice in one early morning the benefit of calling on the name of the Lord. One lesson involved them all in a storm-tossed boat. The other was a demonstration as Peter abandoned even the boat. He started to sink after a few steps, and he cried out again in fear and powerlessness. Once again, the Lord responded.

As we pursue and press after the Lord, we ought not to be surprised if He wastes no opportunity on us either. It is His whole-hearted intent to keep us from sin, and His power is sufficient for that. We must rely on that power. He does, it seems to me, take great risks with our souls with the intent to bring us to an expected end. He may indeed allow us to disappoint ourselves in order for Him to improve our souls and to teach us that which we see not. (Job 34:32) My father once told me that the best thing is to come through a battle with victory, but that there is something to be said for just coming through the battle. Is that not where the Lord reveals to us the most about ourselves and we discover Him, too, in a more amazing way? It is our goal to be victorious. Are we willing to take the risk? Are we willing to be vulnerable to Him as we put His power to the test of faith?

Let's call out for the Lord as we are in our desperate circumstances. Let's call out for the Lord, not just that our circumstances will end now, and the day break. As we call out to Him,

let's cry also, "Nearer, My God, to Thee." He may say, "Come," and invite us to turn loose of the fragile security that we've been so desperate to keep afloat. If I falter, will He save me? Will He stretch forth His hand?

He may chide me. He will secure me. I'm sure He'll calm the waves when He is finished with them.

"By terrible things in righteousness wilt thou answer us, O God of our salvation; who art the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of them that are afar off upon the sea: which by his strength setteth fast the mountains, being girded with power: which stilleth the noise of the seas, the noise of the waves, and the tumult of the people." Psalm 65:5-7.

## Standing Alone For God

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

"And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good? But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and beready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear: Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing. For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:" I Peter 3:13-18.

God is calling today for men and women of courage to stand for righteousness. We have many examples of such people in His Word. Daniel stood alone for God among the 120 princes and presidents under Darius, king of Persia. It cost him a night in the lion's den. Daniel was an old man when thrown to the lions, but he had stood alone on many occasions. While still very young and a prisoner in a strange land he and three friends stood firm for their Jewish teaching about food consumption. Other Jewish captives must have thought these were little non-essentials, for we have no record of them refusing to eat the king's meats or drink his wine. Daniel lived a long life in Babylon working among the ruling class. Many times, he stood alone before the king and gave interpretations to dreams knowing it might cost his life.

David is another man who stood for God. He too had learned courage and faith in God while young. Alone in the wilderness with only helpless timid sheep, he relied on God to help him kill both a bear and a lion. While his older brothers accused him of being proud, he forged

ahead and stood before King Saul. God helped him kill Goliath. (I Samuel 17:20-51)

In later years, while running from King Saul, David stood alone two different times against his own militia and protected Saul from certain death. When David's men saw Saul enter the cave where they were hiding, they whispered, "God has delivered him into your hands." David answered, "The Lord forbid that I should ...stretch forth my hand against him." Thus, he kept the enraged men from killing Saul. (I Samuel 24:1-22)

Another time, when Saul was sleeping, David crept into Saul's camp, but only took Saul's spear and water cruse, even though his men tried to convince him that God had arranged things so he could kill Saul. After David was a safe distance away, Saul awoke. David called to him, "The Lord delivered thee into my hand today, but I would not stretch forth mine hand against the Lord's anointed." (I Samuel 26:7-25.)

Paul also stood alone, many times while taking the Gospel among heathen cities. A few times, he had to stand alone among brethren who had not yet accepted the truth that God had shown him.

We can always depend on God standing with us when we must stand alone. Christ promised, "...lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:20 . "...I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Hebrews 13:5. "And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good? But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;" (I Peter 3:13, 14)

The need to stand alone for righteousness is becoming more frequent as our culture changes. Take obedience to authority as an example.

(Continued on page 10.)

# **FAITH AND VICTORY**

## **12 PAGE HOLINESS MONTHLY**

A horizontal row of seven small, dark gray or black rectangular blocks, evenly spaced, likely representing a set of data points or categories.

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 Willie Murphey, and other consecrated workers at the FAITH PUBLISHING HOUSE, 4318 S. Division, Guthrie, OK 73044.

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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 sin 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.**

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*Editorials*

"And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst." John 6:35.



There are so many delicious ways that we enjoy bread, perhaps it is biscuits for breakfast, a sandwich with freshly sliced bread for lunch or hot rolls for dinner. This is only some of the basic ways it is prepared and eaten. A variety of other ways that grain flours are utilized would include foods ranging from cornbread to pasta, breakfast cereals, cakes and pastries—so many wonderful things to eat. But, who can refuse the excellent flavor and tender texture of a freshly baked and glazed cinnamon roll that seems to melt in your mouth? What good things the Lord allows us to enjoy. While these things are delightful to the natural man, and we are blessed by God to have them, He would like to also satisfy the deep craving need of our soul.

When Adam and Eve were driven from the beautiful garden of Eden the Lord cursed the ground and told Adam, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground...." To this day bread continues to be an important part of man's diet and is one of the principle sectors of nutrition. It is a valuable source of carbohydrates, protein, fiber and other needful vitamins and minerals. Much expense and labor is invested annually in the effort to provide this staple food. Jesus taught His disciples to pray to God for their "daily bread." This, no doubt, was a request for God to supply their personal needs in general and included more than simply an item of food, for God is concerned about the whole man both physically and spiritually.

After multiplying the loaves and fishes to feed the five thousand who had come to listen to His teaching, Jesus proclaimed that He was the "bread of life." He was offering to mankind more than a crust of bread. He saw spiritual beings that were literally starving to death for bread from Heaven that would feed their souls and give them eternal life. Adam and Eve may have been able to till the ground and make cakes of bread from the grain that matured on the stalks of their fields, but they were never able to replace the soul satisfying nourishment they

previously enjoyed from communing with God in the cool of the day and eating of the "Tree of life." Jesus was once again offering nourishment for the soul.

The Old Testament contains several symbolic references to bread that point to Jesus. When God instituted the feast of the Passover at the time the children of Israel were about to be delivered from their Egyptian bondage, they were instructed to have no leaven in their houses for seven days and to eat unleavened bread during that time. Hundreds of years later Jesus observed this Passover feast with His disciples shortly before He was betrayed into the hands of wicked men. Notice His words, "...Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body." Matthew 26:26. The unleavened bread was a symbol of Jesus' body that was bruised and broken for the benefit of lost humanity. He came to this earth as an humble servant, and He served His disciples the bread and wine before His body was offered as a sacrifice for the sins of the world. The life of Jesus was not lifted up with arrogance and hypocrisy like the leaven that permeated the very core of the Pharisees, but His doctrine was true and pure and had the power to change the hearts of those who believed and obeyed.

Notice what Apostle Paul wrote concerning leaven, "Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." I Corinthians 5:8. Those who truly desire to find the Lord must rid themselves of the evil that is polluting their souls and seek Him with an humble, honest heart. As the psalmist said, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise." Psalms 51:17. The few who are willing to search for their Creator in the proper way will soon be rewarded with the presence and blessing of the Savior of the world.

Another Old Testament symbol that is rich with meaning as it points to Christ is the manna that God gave to the children of Israel as they were en route to the land of Canaan. Through the early hours of the morning the dew fell upon the wilderness about the Israelites and when it dried there was left behind a small white, round thing like a coriander seed. When the people went out in the morning and saw it they called

it Manna or "what is this?" Moses explained to them that this is the bread which the Lord had given them to eat and they were instructed to gather what they and their family needed for that day. They were not to be fearful and try to hoard a supply for the future. Those who did, found out that it spoiled and their extra efforts were in vain. However, there was one pot of Manna that was gathered and Moses told Aaron to put it before the Lord to be preserved for the generations to come, and it was placed in a golden pot in the Ark of the testimony.

When they gathered it, the people ground it in mills or beat it in a mortar and baked it in pans to make cakes. The Scriptures say it tasted like fresh oil and was like wafers made with honey. This "bread from heaven" continued to bless and nourish the children of Israel for forty years; until the time that they went into the land of Canaan. The psalmist reported of it many years later and described it as "...the corn of heaven" and said that "Man did eat angels' food:..." (Psalm 78:24, 25.)

It is said that a man once asked why the Lord didn't send them a years supply of Manna all at one time. And an illustration was relayed to the man of a father who gave his son an allowance for the whole year. It so happened that the only time his son came around was when it was time to collect his allowance. It seems the father wanted to have a better relationship with his son so he changed his methods and only gave him enough for one day. The son responded by coming to his father daily to ask for his allowance and that gave him an opportunity to develop a more meaningful relationship with the son.

After Jesus multiplied the bread for the people who were listening to His teachings and they gathered twelve baskets of the fragments that were left, there were some who sought Him the following day. Jesus perceived that they were following Him for the literal bread that He had given them and charged them to "Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you:...." John 6:27. Some then asked Him what they might do to work the works of God. At this point Jesus offered them a piece of spiritual bread but some of them refused it. He told them, "...This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he

hath sent." In their profound unbelief they said, "...What sign shonest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work? Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat." What an insult, the day after Jesus miraculously multiplied the loaves and fishes and they were already asking for a sign to believe. Jesus tried to explain to them that He was the Bread from Heaven but many of them couldn't believe in Him. All they could see was the son of Joseph before them.

The work that God has for us to do is to believe in Him, not with simply head knowledge, but a belief that comes from the heart. This kind of faith is manifest by a willingness to really do His will—not simply nodding our heads in agreement when we hear His Word and then doing our own pleasure. That is hypocrisy and brings no glory to His worthy name. Too many people want to add Christ to their lives in the hope that everything will be all right. However, that will not work. To fulfill the work of God and believe in Him one must choose between right and wrong—the way of Christ or the way of the world. The two cannot be combined into some glorified sandwich, for the Lord will not be a part of one's life that is still consumed by the ways of sin.

Jesus is identified as the "true Bread," the "living Bread," the "Bread of God," and the "Bread from Heaven." When a soul empties himself of the leaven of the sinful world and partakes of the Divine nature and spirit of Christ, they will be given the blessed hope of eternal life. This hope is nourished and grows brighter with each passing day and will one day culminate in a reality that far exceeds the realm of our greatest imagination. As one feeds on the God-ordained principles of holiness there develops a holy relationship with God that the spirit of mortal man has longed for since the fall of Adam and Eve. This blessed hope is made possible because Jesus gives His people the unique privilege of partaking of "hidden manna."

—Bro. Willie E. Murphey  
wemurphey@yahoo.com

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"This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever." John 6:58.



OK—I would like for you to remember me in prayer, I have some serious physical needs. Also please remember my mother, Sis. Earnestine Jordon in prayer, she is diabetic.

—Sis. Patsy Jordon

MO—Remember Sis. LaVerna Probst in prayer. She has a serious illness and is very weak.

## Standing Prayer Requests

Sis. Merline Allen  
Sis. Gladys Cashio  
Sis. Helen Carson  
Sis. Genevieve Carver  
Sis. Elizabeth Corteway  
Sis. Waneta Creel  
Bro. Terry Dawson Sr.  
Sis. Patsy Doolittle  
Sis. Dorall Forbes  
Bro. Troy Gentry  
Bro. Lee Hilton  
Jaden Howard  
Sis. Patsy Jordon  
Sis. Earnestine Jordon  
Sis. Karoline Kessler  
Bro. Mark and Sis. Darlene Knight  
Sis. Virginia Myers  
Sis. Elsie M. Offerman  
Sis. Melba Powell  
Bro. Vernon Robinson  
Sis. Ruth Shehee  
Sis. Cheryl Smith  
Bro. Michael Smith  
Bro. Edward and Sis. Gloria Taylor  
Sis. Imogene Taylor  
The Mitch Taylor family  
Sis. Norma Tiller  
Bro. Delmar Wilkins

## MEETING DATES

**Shawnee, OK (Revival)**—May 1-7  
**Los Angeles, CA (Spring Revival)**—May 21-23  
**Oklahoma State (Guthrie, OK)**—May 28-June 6  
**Holly Hill, SC (Camp Meeting)**—May 30-June 6  
**Green Bank, WV (Camp Meeting)**—June 11-17  
**Green Pastures, OK (Sisters' Retreat)**—June 11-12  
**Tulsa, OK (Summer Revival)**—June 17-20  
**Jefferson, OR (Camp Meeting)**—June 19-27  
**Fresno, CA (Camp Meeting)**—June 27-July 4  
**General Southern (Loranger, LA)**—June 27-July 4  
**Pacoima, CA (Sisters' Retreat)**—July 9-10  
**National (Monark Springs, MO)**—July 16-25  
**Myrtle, MO (Camp Meeting)**—July 30 - Aug. 3  
**Boley, OK (Camp Meeting)**—August 13-15  
**Spooner, WI (Tent Meeting)**—August 18-22

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## MEETING NOTICES

### SINGING, REVIVAL AND DEDICATION SERVICES, SHAWNEE, OK

The Church of God congregation at 1415 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK, is very grateful to the Lord for the new dining area addition to our little chapel here. It is now finished and being enjoyed by the congregation! We give a special "thank you" to each one of the Saints that gave of themselves so graciously with their labors and acts of love in helping to get this much needed addition finished. We ask the Lord to bless them richly, beyond what they can ask or think!

Lord willing, a Singing is planned for Saturday night, May 1st, at 6:30. All singers are welcomed and encouraged to seek the Lord; then come bless us with what the Lord gives you. Refreshments in the new dining area are being planned for after the singing.

Bro. Leslie Busbee has expressed a burden for a revival here. Lord willing, he will be with us in revival Sunday morning, May 2nd, through Friday night, May 7th. Dinner will be served after the Sunday morning service. We are also planning a dedication service of the new Dining Hall addition to begin at 2:00 Sunday afternoon, May 2nd. All are welcome; especially those that helped with the building. We plan to have an afternoon service following the dedication service; there will be no night service on

Sunday. Monday through Friday services are to be at 7:30 nightly. We are looking to the Lord to richly bless these services; feed our souls, glorify and honor His Name. Pray with us and come if you can! We would love to have you.

For more information, you may call Bro. Carl Shaffer (405) 488-4513. The chapel phone number is (405) 273-2170.

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### LOS ANGELES, CA, SPRING REVIVAL

We, the congregation, are importuning God for His divine blessings for our Spring Revival, May 21-23, 2010. You are invited to join us with your prayers and your presence.

Services: Friday 7:30p.m., Saturday: 2:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m. youth, 7:30 p.m., Sunday: Sunday School 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m.

Church of God, 1381 Walnut St., Los Angeles, CA 90011. Chapel phone, (213) 742-0123.

In His Service Together,

—Pastors Travis and Alice Johnson  
 (760) 261-2564  
 pastorx2@hotmail.com

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### OKLAHOMA STATE CAMP MEETING

The annual Oklahoma State Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held May 28-June 6, at the campground in Guthrie, OK. The first service will be on Friday evening, May 28, at 7:30, with three services daily thereafter.

An invitation to attend is extended to everyone. Your presence and your prayers will be appreciated. Three meals per day will be provided and every effort will be made to provide lodging for those who come from out of town or country.

We have a ladies dormitory and sleeping accommodations are also available in the Sunday school rooms. The Lord has provided us with a separate family unit with twelve private motel style rooms. To the extent possible, these rooms will be reserved for families. Please let us know ASAP if you desire one of the family units and the number of nights you plan to stay. We also request you bring the necessary linens and bath items.

Expenses for the meeting will be met by freewill offering. If you would like to make a contribution, you may do so by sending it directly to the State Treasurer, Sis. Brenda Wilkins, 807 W. Lake Rd., Guthrie, OK 73044.

To obtain further information about the meeting, contact Bro. Phillip Gellenbeck (405) 282-2999

#### **HOLLY HILL, SC, CAMP MEETING**

Lord willing, our Holly Hill, SC Camp Meeting will be held from Sunday, May 30 through Sunday, June 6, 2010. We would like to extend a warm welcome to all to attend. Services will be held at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. daily. There are limited accommodations on the church grounds available. Please call Sis. Beverly Pratt at (803) 496-3057 or Bro. Kevin and Sis. Cheryl Smith at (803) 492-7975 as early as possible, if you plan to stay on the grounds. There are several motels in Santee, SC, which is about 16 miles from the chapel. We will be happy to provide details to any who are interested. Please come if you can, and if you are not able to attend, please pray that God's blessing will be upon all that is said and done in this meeting. We need the Lord's presence and direction, and we desire your prayers.

—The Holly Hill, SC Congregation

#### **SISTERS' RETREAT**

#### **GREEN PASTURES, OK/PACOIMA, CA**

For further information concerning the Sisters' Retreat to be held in Green Pastures, OK on June 11-12 and in Pacoima, CA on July 9-10 you may contact Sis. McDonald at (918) 758-0222.

#### **TULSA, OK, SUMMER REVIVAL**

The Church of God, Tulsa Congregation, is planning a Summer Revival Meeting June 17-20. Bro. James Bell (Sapulpa, OK) and Bro. Charles Chandler (Green Pastures, OK) have a burden for this meeting.

Evening services will be held nightly, Thursday-Saturday at 7:00 p.m. Sunday services will include Sunday School at 9:30, Morning service at 10:30, dinner, and afternoon service at approximately 2:30. We solicit your prayers and extend a warm welcome to all. For further information you may contact Bro. Charles Lowe at (918) 584-6838 or Bro. Charles Rhodes at (918) 272-9682.

#### **JEFFERSON, OR, CAMP MEETING**

The 2010 Jefferson, OR Camp Meeting will begin Saturday evening, June 19, and will end

Sunday, June 27th. On weekdays, services start at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., with a 2:30 p.m. service the first Sunday and last Saturday. Sleeping accommodations are available and all are welcome. For more information contact Bro. Clifford Smith at (503) 581-4575 or Bro. Bob Wilson at (541) 327-3621.

#### **FRESNO, CA, CAMP MEETING**

The Fresno Camp Meeting will be June 27-July 4, 2010 at the Church of God located at 388 N. First Street, Fresno, CA 93722. For more information call Sis. Gwen Robinson at (559) 233-2492.

—Sis. Stephanie Pree

#### **GENERAL SOUTHERN CAMPMEETING**

Lord willing, the General Southern Camp meeting at Loranger, Louisiana will begin Sunday, June 27, with morning and evening services daily through Sunday, July 4. If you can join us, come praying for a blessing.

There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brothers. Electrical and water hook ups are available for those with campers. Meals are provided 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. (At the exit, take Hwy. 442 which runs into Hwy. 40.)

For more information, contact Bro. Carlos Doolittle at (985) 878-8122. The chapel phone is (985) 878-2788. Please do support this meeting with your prayers.

#### **BOLEY, OK, CAMP MEETING**

The Boley, OK congregation is planning to have a mini camp meeting, August 13-15.

Service times will be Friday evening 7:00 p.m., Saturday 3:00 p.m., Dinner will be served. On Sunday, Sunday School will begin at 10:00 a.m., Morning service 11:00 a.m., no afternoon service. Dinner will be served. Notice that there will only be an evening service on Friday.

Please be in agreement of prayer with us for a very inspirational meeting. Let us not selfishly enjoy the truth—Come and bring a friend.

For further information contact Bro. Jordon (918) 814-4045.

**SPOONER, WI, TENT MEETING**

Lord willing, this meeting will begin Wednesday, August 18, at 7:00 p.m., with services daily at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. through Sunday, August 22.

Come for a blessing and to be a blessing, and please support the tent meeting with your prayers.

There will be some accommodations but please call for arrangements. Bring your own bedding and linens if possible. Be prepared for cold nights. We give everyone a special invitation to come and be with us to enjoy God's many blessings of love. For more information contact Bro. Ron and Sis. Martha Zacharias at (715) 635-2994.



## **LETTERS FROM OUR READERS**

OK—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings in the precious name of Jesus, the greatest and most precious of all names. The Bible says His name is a strong tower and the righteous runneth in to it and are safe. (Proverbs 18:10.)

Here of late the Lord has allowed me to have problems with my stomach so severe that I would feel the need of calling other dears Saints for prayer. I am surprised sometimes how soon He hears and answers these prayers. It reminds me of the Scripture in Isaiah 65:24, "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." I usually get a touch pretty soon. Not only that, but sometimes He gives me a song that is very encouraging.

Just recently He gave the song, number 70 in our hymnal, *Evening Light Songs*, "There is Joy in the Lord." It reminds me when the children of Israel were in bondage in Egypt, the more they afflicted them the more they multiplied and grew. (Exodus 1:12.) Peter says the trial of our faith is more precious than gold that perisheth. (I Peter 1:7.) If God be for us, who can be against us. (Romans 8:31.) The Bible declares the Eternal God is our refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms. (Deuteronomy 33:27.)

I trust God will bless all of you abundantly as you serve in His glorious cause.

—Bro. T. V. McMillian



**Shawn Robert Smith**, of Springfield, MO was born December 4, 1977 and was called home to be with the Lord, April 10, 2010. He was preceded in death by his brother, Randall Lee Smith and his grandparents. He is survived by his father and mother, LeRoy Sr. and Mae; one sister, Debbi and husband, Mark Plotke; four brothers and their wives: Lee and Leita, Ed and Angela, Chuck and Aimmee, and Kevin and Jessica; uncles, an aunt and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Shawn graduated from high school in 1997. Shawn loved Jesus and loved going to Sunday school. He would walk around shaking hands before leaving the service. The family wrote, "we have suffered a great loss with the passing of our sweet 'tiny baby boy.' Each of us had our own special relationship with Shawn. He gave and received love from all who were blessed to know him. Shawn loved the Lord and lived his life accordingly, always an example of unconditional love, patience, kindness and humor. Shawn was our angel and we were blessed to have him in our lives." He will be missed by all. The memorial services were officiated by Bro. Michael Smith and Sis. Dena Porter. Burial followed at Greenlawn Memorial Garden, Springfield, MO.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life." John 5:24.

## Standing Alone For God

(Continued from page 3.)

When I grew up, everyone in our community believed children and teens should obey authority. Parents were the authority at home and if a neighbor saw a child was disobeying his or her parent the neighbor stood with the parent. Teachers were the authority at school. If the child disobeyed the teacher, parents stood with the teacher. Police were the authority for the towns and cities. The citizen of the city stood with the police against those breaking the law. Often today parents have to stand alone against neighbors who encourage teens to ignore their parents and do what they want to do. Teachers often must stand alone against parents when they reprove a student. Sometimes police officers are slandered and said to be evil when they try to exercise their duties.

We need to stand strong against any evil and be careful to not accept the idea that it is okay for each person to "do that which is right in his own eyes."

We have no threat of a lion's den, fiery furnace, or having our heads cut off. Yet we so often submit to pressures of this world in everyday life. It is uncomfortable to stand alone. We all cry for companionship. Even Christ, Who is

the ultimate example of standing alone, cried, "My God, my God, why hath thou forsaken me?" However with only a few followers supporting Him "he endured the cross, despising the shame." At times, we also will have to stand alone "despising the shame." Others do not know what God is requiring of us individually. What God requires of one may seem strange to others, even to other brethren.

Having to stand alone is part of the process of dying we must all go through. The cross (including death to self and the world) is a permanent ingredient in a Christian's life. God requires that we stand for Him daily. Nevertheless, there will be times when God calls us to stand alone for what others call "non-essentials." Will we be silent to please our peers? Or, will we stand alone for what our conscience approves?

Why were David, Daniel and Paul able to stand alone and do the right? Because they, like Moses, chose "rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for [they] had respect unto the recompense of the reward."

Be careful what kind of example you are leaving for the following generation.



## If You Were the Only One

If none but you in the world today  
Had tried to live in the Christlike way,  
Could the rest of the world look close at you  
And find the path that is straight and true?

If none but you in the world so wide  
Had found the Christ for his daily guide  
Would the things you do and the things you say  
Lead others to live in His blessed way?

Ah, friends of the Christ, in the world today  
Are many who watch you upon your way  
And look to the things you say and do  
To measure the Christian standard true!

Then guard this treasure that you possess  
This power to hurt, or help and bless,  
And live so close to the standard true  
That others may safely follow you.

—Francis McKinnon Morton

## Self-Love and Pure Love

There is, I learned, in every human heart an element called self-love. This is not sinful in itself, being synonymous with that desire for happiness which is the medium through which God appeals to the soul. It is not annihilated in the sanctified soul, else Jesus could not have said, "Love thy neighbor as thyself," but it is there subordinated to that pure love which places God first in all circumstances. To love the Lord with all the heart, might, mind and strength is to love with pure love; but the heart that loves thus still contains self-love, and it is through this property of the soul that the sanctified can be tempted. Adam was a perfect man, with a perfectly pure heart; but when tempted to obtain something which promised to improve his state and increase his happiness, he proved that he loved himself by yielding to the temptation. It is this part of ourselves which must daily be denied lest it degenerate into selfishness and

cause us trouble. There is a degree to which this self-love and pure love may be-come mixed in our service to God. This had happened in my case.

Pure love serves without any hope of reward. When light and peace and joy fill the soul, or when grief, sorrow, or loneliness presses the heart, pure love goes on loving and serving. Pure love desires, not to be pleased, but to please. It gives all and demands nothing in return. It loves God, not so much for what He has done for the soul, or for what the soul expects Him to do for it, but for what He IS. It seeks Him, not so much that it may be blessed, as that it may be a pleasure to Him. It desires, not so much satisfaction for its own heart, as that He may be satisfied with it. It seeks not place nor position nor anything, but only that HE may find pleasure in it, that HE may be able to rejoice in the work of His hand. If it pleases Him to give good things, the soul is grateful, but does not forget that the Giver is more than the gift. If evil comes, pure love can quietly rest, desiring naught for self, but all for Him. Even if His face is hidden, pure love, though feeling keenly the absence of its beloved, can still say in sweet submission, "Thy will be done"; for it feels itself unworthy of any blessing and so is content with whatever its Lord is pleased to do. It yields itself to the Author of every good, and, trusting His love, receives thankfully and in deep humility what He pleases to give and as gratefully humbles itself to go without what He does not please to give. "Willingly to receive what Thou givest, to lack what Thou withholdest, to relinquish what Thou takest, to suffer what Thou inflictest, to be what Thou requirest"—this is pure love and real consecration.

—E. E. Byrum

From Riches of Grace

## Uses of the Bible

When I am tired, the Bible is my bed;  
Or in the dark, the Bible is my light;  
When I am hungry, it is vital bread;  
Or fearful, it is armor for the fight.  
When I am sick, 'tis healing medicine;  
Or lonely, thronging friends I find therein.  
  
Should I be lost, the Bible is my guide;  
Or naked, it is raiment, rich and warm.  
Am I imprisoned, it is ranges wide;  
Or tempest-tossed, a shelter from the storm  
Would I adventure, 'tis a gallant sea;  
Or would I rest, it is a flowery lea.

## The Walk to Emmaus

By Sis. Lana Johnson

*Are you walking down an Emmaus road?  
Reasoning, wondering, carrying a heavy load?  
Thinking things should be different than they are?  
Allowing the questions your faith to mar?*

*Jesus Himself will draw near on this path.  
He will speak to you because He hath  
All the words of this life that you'll ever need,  
So tell Him your doubts and to Him take heed.*

*If it appears as though He's about to depart,  
Just open to Him your eyes and your heart.  
He can be constrained to stay,  
By a willingness to hear what He has to say.*

*He will cause your heart to burn within,  
You'll realize then that He's always been  
The Savior, the help, you are looking for,  
And His Word gives you hope, and life ever more.*

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## HOW DO YOU CLASSIFY?

### ARE YOU

Are you like a garden of flowers or a nettle patch?  
Is your life a palace or a hovel?  
Are you a producer of harmonies or a hurler of discords?  
Are you a comforter or a disturber?  
A grouch or a gleam?  
A worker or a shirker?  
A romance or a tragedy?  
A joy or a sorrow?  
A producer or a loafer?  
Are you good for something or are you in the way?  
A winner or a loser?  
True or false?  
Are you honored, loved and trusted, or feared and despised?  
A success or a failure?  
Cherished or dreaded?  
Static or dynamic?  
Are you always kind, loving and tender or cross, peevish and harsh?  
Is it harder or easier, to be strong and good where you are?

Are you a producer, a booster, a lifter?  
Do you make things worth while move?  
Or are you a block in the way of progress?  
Are you a victim of drudgery or are you a chorister in life's music?  
Do you whistle and sing or mope and grouch?  
Is your life like alfalfa fields, orchards and meadows, or a desert waste?  
Are you on lifting tides of a never failing enthusiasm, or a cowardly weakling driven before the storms of temptation?  
Are you a live fish dashing upstream, or a floater?  
Have you a wishbone or a backbone?  
Does your language suggest a barn yard sewer or a rose garden?  
Are you a ship barnacled with weakening habits, or an ocean liner, clean and strong for the high seas of success?  
Is life so delicious that your mouth waters at the very thought of living, or are you getting so little out of life that the dark brown taste in your mouth has spread all over your face?  
What a pity to be ugly, cheap, mean and unhappy, when you can be beautiful, strong, winsome and useful!

—Selected

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