

FAITH AND VICTORY

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A Pathway Through

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

Oh, the cross has wondrous glory!
Oft I've proved this to be true;
When I'm in the way so narrow,
I can see a pathway thro';

And how sweetly Jesus whispers:
Take the cross, thou need'st not fear,
For I've tried the way before thee,
And the glory lingers near.

Is not this the land of Beulah,
Blessed, blessed land of light,
Where the flowers bloom forever,
And the sun is always bright?

—*Evening Light Songs* page 300.

What a glorious, but humble, vision of hope!
Consider the paradox—the cross has wondrous
glory! Do you see glory in the bloodstained cross

of torture? When Jesus hung on the cross, it was not glorious to see, but the spiritual victory won on that cross was revolutionary.

The mark of the cross has been on the pages of history from the time Jesus cried out, "It is finished!" (John 19:30.)

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ ushered in a new era of justification by repentance and grace. Gone is the old law of an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth. (Matthew 5:38.) Jesus set the example of giving and doing for others and He calls His people to follow and do likewise. In the greatest sermon ever preached, Jesus instructs us to "...Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;" Matthew 5:44.

In order to love, bless, do good and pray, the human nature must die on the cross of humility. It hurts. Tears flow and cries of anguish arise unto our Father. "Oh, Lord, I cannot bear this suffering any longer—please take me from this cross of torture! I do not want my way any more but I need your grace to carry me through this valley of turmoil and sorrow. PLEASE HELP ME!"

Then how sweetly Jesus whispers, *I will carry you and your cross through this lowly place in your life. See, I have made a narrow way before you—do not fear.*

The crying stops. Peace and strength replace the pain and confusion. Yes, we can face another day because Jesus will take us through, moving forward with hope and confidence that all things will somehow work together for good

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because we love the Lord. (Romans 8:28.) He has promised to never leave us nor forsake us. (Hebrews 13:5.) He is closer to us than a brother, sister, mother, father, husband or wife. We forsake all others because Jesus Christ alone can take us onward and upward through the narrow way prepared before us. (Matthew 10:37-38.) The flesh cannot come this way for this highway is seen and walked spiritually. It is heavenly divine.

Feel hope and courage flood your soul? Wondrous glory lingers near the blood stained cross. Thousands of pilgrims have walked this way before us. (Hebrews 11.) Their testimonies of faith cheer us and we see the narrow way has been tried and proven true. When friends encourage us, it helps propel us forward, but let us never forsake the One Who carries us through the valleys in the Land of Beulah.

In the married land (Beulah), God's people are not forsaken nor desolate. (Isaiah 62:4-5.) The Lover of our Soul cares for us. He plucks the thorns from the roses that prick us in the valleys and He heals the scars they cause. We have hope as we pass through the valley of suffering and self-denial because we know there is a reward at the end. Our spiritual vision is keen. We step with confidence because the Lord is doing a great work for us. He has helped us in

the past, He is helping us today and He will help us in the future. What more assurance could we ask for? Indeed, there is none.

Oh, how pleasant this earth would be if **all** human beings would come to this spiritual Land of Beulah! Instead of fighting and killing one another, men and women would be crucifying self and living by the two greatest commandments. (Mark 12:28-30.) It would change for better the living conditions of thousands of people! Abuse, neglect, poverty and sins of the flesh would be no more. Instead of tears flowing, peace, fellowship, concern and love would flow from heart to heart. Is this an idle dream? Check out the true facts of history and you will find that everywhere divine Christianity was allowed to reign, living conditions improved for mankind.

Yes, the cross has wondrous glory too awesome for words to explain. It has changed the lives of countless millions through the ages of time, and it continues to change our pathway, too.

We know where this narrow pathway led others, and their beckons of triumph call us forward. Having such a great cloud of witnesses about us, let us travel upward to the Holy City where there is no darkness, for the Son is always bright.

The Language of Love

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

I grew up on a farm in Willamette Valley, Oregon. We worked hard and I loved it. I felt like I was the best-loved child in the whole wide world. Our parents treated all of us equally, without any partiality; but my older sister grew up feeling that our father did not love her. How could this be?

It must have been something about our love language that triggered our different feelings. The information that I have gathered from men who study family relationships, and from my own 50 years of observing families, I believe that every person has a different way of perceiving love. My perception of love happens to be acts of service. I watched my father working year after year from sun up to sun down to supply for our family. This convinced me that I was dearly loved.

In John 13:34 Christ says, "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another." Christ's love is honest and sacrificial. God is "love." Also in John 13:35 Christ said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." Love, therefore, is a very important ingredient in the Christian home. Faith, hope and charity (love) are all parts of a Christian's life; "but the greatest of these is charity." Our neighbors will not believe we are Christians unless our families have love one to another.

My father expressed love through acts of service and honor. Rarely did he say, "I love you." He would say, "I will not permit you to do that because I love you and know that is not good for you." "You girls do the dishes and show

Mother that you love her." He showed great respect for each child and Mother, never ignoring us or humiliating us. Mother wasn't allowed to lift heavy things if Dad was near, or even to carry a bucket of water or to hoe in the garden. He would take the hoe and tell her to go sit down. Only once did I hear him scold her. But neither did he say, "I love you." Honoring and doing for her spoke his love to my mother and to our family.

Love is an emotional language. It is part of the nurturing that is spoken of in Ephesians 6:4 "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Love must be expressed in a way that touches the emotions of the person we love. If it does not touch their emotions in a positive way it is like speaking a language they don't understand. To avoid frustration, we should learn what is thought to be the five basic languages of love. Then observe attentively each child and our spouse so we can express love to them in their preferred way.

The five basic love languages are: 1. Words of affirmation, 2. Acts of service, 3. Gift giving, 4. Quality time, and 5. Physical touch and closeness. Every person feels a degree of love through each of these expressions, but one will mean much more than the other four. Most small children will respond to all five, but around pre-teen years, one will become more desirable. Think of yourself. Which of the five do you most enjoy? Which one means the least to you?

Words meant the least to my father. He would say, "Words are cheap." "It takes no sacrifice to talk." "To prove love you must put some muscles in it." Words of affirmation were least meaningful to him. However, they might have been most meaningful to some of his four children.

1. Words of affirmation are especially meaningful to persons suffering from low self-esteem. But it must be legitimate praise, well thought out and from the heart. Even children see flattery as meaningless. Our words must build up. Let it be a job well done, a good grade earned, a character change for the better, etc. Anything they have worked to accomplish. Let it not be a God-given talent or natural beauty, which they did not earn.

2. Acts of service, I John 3:18, "...let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." Do something that person likes, or something out of ordinary. Maybe clean their

room or fix a bike tire. Don't do something you want done and expect them to accept it as a love token. Example, I wash the dishes and expect my husband (who couldn't care how messy the kitchen is) to accept that as an act of love to him. It won't touch his emotions.

3. Gift giving is another way to show love. Be sure to get something that the person likes. Don't buy a cookbook for your daughter that hates cooking. Bringing a gift home when you have been away lets the person know you thought of them while you were away. Gifts need not be expensive, just wrapped pretty to show you put some love into it. Handmade gifts are excellent.

4. Quality time is the number one language of love for many children in today's families. We have too many things that take our time to care for or to make payments on. This leaves us too little time to enjoy our children. When you do have a moment, give them your undivided attention. Play his game. Read her choice of book (if appropriate). Fix his toy or just sit and talk with him or her. Don't promise to do something with them and spend the evening reading. Instead of your time being spent at home saying, "I love you," it will be saying, "I love myself more than you."

5. Physical touch and closeness is one of the ways Jesus showed love. Mark 10:13, 16, "And they brought young children to him,...And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them." A soft touch from the one you love says, "I love you." All childhood worries flee away when the little one snuggles up in Daddy's strong arms. Stay in touch with your children by touching them often—hold their hand, put your arms over their shoulder or give them a hug.

Besides showing your love, it will help your child develop both emotionally and physically.

Words touched my older sister's emotional cord. Her preferred love language was words of affirmation. In adult life she was deceived by sweet words more than once. Dad struggled to make each of his children feel loved, but he never understood that what he considered almost useless could have meant more than gold to my sister. Quality time was her second choice of the love languages.

Dad and Mom married in November, 1929 with no assets except a car. The Great Depression hit the U.S. the same year. The first 15 years of their marriage was in survival mode.

(Continued on page 7.)

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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 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.

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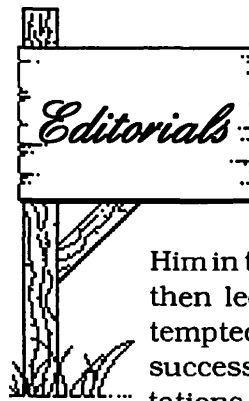
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In the fourth chapter of Luke there are recorded some instances in the early ministry of Jesus. After He was baptized by John at the Jordan river and the Holy Spirit descended upon

Him in the likeness of a dove, He was then led into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. After Jesus successfully overcame those temptations He returned to Galilee in the

power of the Spirit and taught in their synagogues and His fame spread throughout that region and He was glorified of all.

Beginning at the 16th verse notice the words of this passage of Scripture, "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears. And all bare him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth. And they said, Is not this Joseph's son?"

This is a wonderful text of Scripture that was revealed to Isaiah many years earlier and it has tremendous meaning to the soul that has been bound by sin's dreadful influence. The hearts of the ones listening to this reading should have jumped for joy because the Savior of the world was speaking gracious words of hope to them. The prison that had them bound was about to be opened by none other than the Son of God. These gracious words offer hope to you and me today and will continue to minister to mankind throughout the ages to come until God brings an end to the world and the day of His mercy is concluded.

After these gracious, heart-thrilling words were offered to the people attending the synagogue that day in Nazareth, notice their reply. "And they said, Is not this Joseph's son?" How grievous this response must have been to Jesus. He had given up the immediate presence of the Heavenly Father and come to earth in order to bring this message of deliverance and their reply was dripping with sarcasm and unbelief.

Due to the hardness of their hearts, Jesus immediately changed the tenor of His message. In the next few verses the truth He revealed to them did not fall under the context of the "gracious words" that had been previously spoken. It is clear that their unbelief would prevent Him from doing the miracles for them that were done at Capernaum. He called to their attention that some of the most notable works of Elijah and Elisha were done for people who were not of Israel. The presentation of these simple facts revealed that their spirit of unbelief was also accompanied by an evil nature. For in verses 28-30 it says, "And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. But he passing through the midst of them went his way."

There are people today who have this same spirit of unbelief and reject the gracious Words of our Savior that are able to bring deliverance from their bondage of sin. The unbelief that fills their hearts is accompanied by a deeper evil that dwells in their souls and when the way of the cross is presented to them in its simplicity they reject it with vehemence. These people are headed for a rude awakening when they come to the end of their life and they are still carrying their sins with them. If a stern rebuke now would awaken them to their lost condition it would be a blessing because it would spare them from the fiery indignation of God's wrath which is about to be poured out on their lost souls.

The Word of God is filled with promises that are for the benefit of the child of God who has a believing heart. However, the world of nominal Christianity today wants to take these blessed promises of hope and comfort that are intended for the righteous and spread them on a gathering of people with unregenerate hearts—people that are indulging in sin more or less every day and have had their conscience soothed by satan

into believing this is acceptable to God. These people, who practice and teach this erroneous doctrine, are a reproach to the Holy name of Jesus. It is dangerous to spurn the delivering power of God and continue living a sinful life. This behavior brings a frown to the face of our Savior Who paid the price for our complete deliverance from sin.

There are children and family members of saints of God that likewise have rejected the gracious Words of Christ and His offered plan of redemption and they are treading perilously close to eternal damnation. Oh wayward child, wake up! Wake up! Perhaps you have heard your mother or father pray earnestly for God to tenderly deal with your soul and bring you to salvation and you have callously gone on in sin. Don't go another day without falling on your knees and begging God to forgive your sins and change your rebellious heart. What can we say that would open your eyes to understand that you are not all right? Things in your life are seriously wrong! Must God give you an open rebuke to bring you to your senses? Must He allow calamity or affliction to touch your life before you will respond? Must He take some thing or some person that you hold dear away from you before you will change? Is it beyond reason that God might allow someone who has earnestly prayed for you to suffer from a severe affliction for your benefit? While you stand by their bedside and watch them agonize in pain, could it be you God is talking to? What if He just remains quiet and lets you go on to your pending destruction? God is not obligated to deal with you any further. Now is the time to repent. Don't wait another day, for it may not arrive and you will only have yourself to blame as you fall past the brink of mercy and plunge into eternal torment.

As children of God we should give forth the gracious words of mercy that offer hope, deliverance and life to those who are seeking God. The plan of redemption still works today and has made a wonderful change in our lives. The comfort and joy that thrills our souls is a precious treasure from Heaven. Trials, afflictions and difficult circumstances only serve to make our hope shine brighter. The glorious image of Jesus Christ is being reflected in the highly refined gold that is produced by our faithfulness. May we be careful to hold the truths God has revealed to us in honesty, real-

izing that this blessed hope of eternal rest is only promised to those who hold their confidence steadfast to the end.

Two new books have been printed, *The One I Love Most*, by Sis. Gladys Cashio and *God Still Answers Prayer* by Sis. Irma Sallee.

Sis. Gladys Cashio has a burden to share the shattered dreams of her youth with the young people who may be considering marriage, in the hope that they will not make the same mistakes that have caused her so much heartache. Through all of her disappointments God was faithful to hold her in His hand and He gave her daily strength and grace to be an overcomer. This 47-page book is bound in heavy paper cover and is available from this office for \$1.50 each. Standard shipping charges will be added to mailed copies.

Sis. Irma Sallee, in her book *God Still Answers Prayer*, has chronicled the inward struggle that a mother faces when her daughter, Karen, is near death with malaria far from home in the small African country of Malawi. Your heart will surely be touched as you read how God came to their rescue time and time again in answer to their prayers and the prayers of the saints who earnestly entered into this struggle between life and death. This 18-page book is bound in heavy paper cover and is available from this office for \$1.00. Standard shipping charges will be added to mailed copies. You may order these books, and many others, by calling us at 1-800-767-1479, writing us at Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044 or e-mailing us at wemurphey@yahoo.com.

The cost of paper and other printing supplies have dramatically risen in the last year. We were needing paper to print this issue of the *Faith and Victory* and we ordered a skid even though the price seemed prohibitive. We are looking to the Lord to help us know how to manage for these needs in the most efficient way. We would appreciate your prayers that the Lord would open up sources for these supplies that are more reasonably priced and that He would give us wisdom in making these decisions for they do have an effect on the spread of the gospel message to precious souls.

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



WA—Please remember my friend, Sis. Robin Brooks, in prayer. She is sick with lupus. My niece, Rachel, is also in need of prayer.

—Sis. Claudia Jerome

OH—I am writing to ask you to pray for a man that has a bad drinking problem. He doesn't have much of a life. He drinks every night. It causes him a lot of trouble. No one wants to be around him. Please pray for him to be delivered from this problem. Please have your church to pray. Thank you, —Anonymous

OH—Please pray for a man that has had a stroke about four years ago. He started going to church but now he doesn't want to go. He is really sick. Also, remember another man that wants to get back to the Lord and needs much prayer. Thank you so much for all your prayers.

—Sis. Tressie Adkins

CA—I am requesting prayer for Otis Revels who has heart problems and Ellen Bennett whose health has been challenging her for some time. Also please pray for Emma McElroy and my brother, Paul Viser.

—Bro. Don Viser

OK—Continue to remember Sis. Velda Wisner. She has been suffering intensely with cancer and is very low.

KY—Remember my brother, his wife and children in prayer. Their home has been broken up and now the wife and four young children are in an abusive situation. Please pray for their safety and for their spiritual needs.

—Sis. Priscilla Cooper

OK—Remember Sis. Joy Williams in prayer. They believe she has had a light stroke. Also, my husband is not doing well.

—Sis. Frances Chandler

Kenya—The devil is working hard to test our faith. It is my belief that he remains defeated. Sis Mary's health (*Bro. Ishmael's wife*) is becoming worse day by day. She has been afflicted with breast cancer. We kindly request you to relay this message to other saints so that she can be remembered in prayer.

—Bro. Ishmael Karewa

Standing Prayer Requests

Bro. Carlos Arriaga
 Sis. Dorothy Burditt
 Sis. Mamie Butcher
 Sis. Gladys Cashio
 Sis. Helen Carson
 Joseph Chandler
 Sis. Waneta Creel
 Sis. Evelyn Fredrickson
 Bro. Troy Gentry
 Sis. Mary Karewa
 Sis. Juliette Lounds
 Sis. Marie Mitchell
 Sis. Melba Powell
 Sis. Anna Severs
 Bro. Michael Smith
 The Mitch Taylor family
 Sis. Velda Wisner

The Language of Love

(Continued from page 3.)

They had two choices—work hard long hours or starve. Dad chose to work. Evenings were spent visiting around the supper table and then a time for feeding our souls. Only on very rare occasions did my Dad permit family worship to be omitted. We sang, (only Church of God songs) he read and explained the scriptures and each of us prayed aloud.

We moved to Oregon, (the promise land for many people) in 1944. That year the war ended and our country was booming. We were all happy to earn money. So we worked hard (from sunup to sundown in the summers) pooled our money and paid for a farm and home in about seven years. By that time we four children were about grown. While I grew up happy and care-free amid this wonderful home life, my sister's heart was aching because her preferred love language of encouraging words and quality time were rarely spoken.

Many a dedicated Christian parent (with a heart full of love) does not understand their child's love language. Some have judged their child of being unthankful, which could cause even more distance between child and parent. It is my prayer that this writing will help a frustrated parent and a child's aching heart. God bless every reader.

MEETING DATES

Bakersfield, CA (Fall Meeting)—Sept. 20-24
Wichita, KS (Fall Meeting)—September 17-24
Polittilly, Roatán, Honduras
 (Tent Meeting)—October 1-8
Holly Hill, SC (Fall Revival)—October 8-15
Myrtle, MO (Fall Singing)—October 7
Okmulgee, OK (Fall Revival)—October 20-22
Fresno, CA (Fall Meeting)—Oct. 29-Nov. 5
Alcoa, TN (Fall Meeting)—November 9-12

MEETING NOTICES

WICHITA, KS, FALL MEETING

The Wichita meeting has been set for September 17-24. As always, we are depending upon the Lord to lead and direct the meeting as well as send ministers of His choice. We need some people to get saved and stop wasting their lives. Some people need to be sanctified and we truly need some sick ones healed. Please pray for God to move in a mighty way here and come if you can. We need strong soldiers in the battle. On Sundays there will be three services and Monday through Saturday, two services at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The chapel address is 2509 N. Grove. From I-35, take exit 42 for 135. Stay on 135 to either 13th or 21st St. exit. Go right to Grove, about nine blocks, and turn left, going north. When you pass 24th St, the second building on your left is the chapel.

If you need to contact someone, you may call Bro. Emmanuel Gracey at (316) 778-1848 or Bro. Theodore McCray at (316) 682-5132.

—Submitted by Sis. Shirley Knight

BAKERSFIELD, CA, MEETING SCHEDULE

For many years, it has been our custom to have a five day gospel meeting in August and a three day weekend meeting in September. This year we will not have a meeting in August here in Bakersfield. We invite you to join us at the State of California meeting in August. We will have a five day meeting in Bakersfield, September 20-24th. Services will be 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday. Saturday, we will also have our annual 9:00 a.m., "Victory Brunch," which is a time of songs and testimonies of God's blessings as we share breakfast. Sunday services will be as follows, Sunday school at 9:45 a.m., worship at 11:00 a.m. and

afternoon service at 3:00 p.m. We welcome everyone and solicit your prayers. For information contact the Pastor, Bro. Hayward Cox or Sis. Tina at (661) 836-3877.

POLITILLY, HONDURAS, TENT MEETING

A meeting is planned in the village of Politilly on the island of Roatan, Honduras October 1-8. We really enjoyed the last meeting and look forward to the one coming up. We invite all the saints interested in coming to join us. If you do plan to come, please let us know as soon as possible so we will know how to make sleeping arrangements and other plans.

Please bring your own bedding, such as sleeping bag and pillow. You will need mosquito repellent (pump spray) for protection at night. The meeting has been set for a dry time of year when the mosquitoes are much less of a nuisance.

For further information you may contact Bro. Doug Wall at dwall@churchofgodmission.com. The ones here really enjoy visitors coming from the States.

HOLLY HILL, SC FALL REVIVAL

We would like to send in a report of our Holly Hill, SC June camp meeting. The Lord met with us in a special way, and we so appreciate all who came and supported our meeting. We also appreciate all who prayed for us, even though they were unable to attend. We were blessed with many soul-stirring messages, and God's presence was very real. We praise Him for being with us once again.

We would also like to extend a cordial welcome to *all* to come to our upcoming fall revival meeting. Lord willing, it will be from Sunday, October 8 through Sunday, October 15, 2006. By the help of the Lord, accommodations will be made for all who can attend. If you are coming, please call Sis. Beverly Pratt at (803) 496-3057 or Sis. Cheryl Smith at (803) 492-7975, so we can make preparations accordingly. Please pray for us that God will meet with us in a special way.

In Christ, —The Holly Hill, SC Congregation

MYRTLE, MO, FALL SINGING

We want to thank the Lord for His faithfulness once again in blessing the Myrtle camp meeting. The services were richly anointed by the Holy Spirit. The singing was heavenly and

the messages were stirring and challenging. Several visitors from the area attended this year. We greatly appreciate all the saints who came from various places to help make the meeting a success. May God richly reward you.

We also want to announce an October workday that has been scheduled on the campground, in conjunction with our annual fall singing. The workday has been set for Saturday, October 7, with our annual singing to be held at 7:00 p.m. that evening. The purpose of the workday is to put new roofing on the south side of the men's dormitory, which is in need of repair. Anyone interested in helping with this project is welcome to participate, and everyone is welcome and urged to come for the singing that evening and stay over for services Sunday morning, October 8. Your presence would be greatly appreciated. Cabins and dormitories are available. For further information, contact Sis. Carol Sorrell, (417) 938-4493 or Bro. Harlan Sorrell, (417) 938-4336. The campground phone number is (417) 938-4682.

OKMULGEE, OK, FALL REVIVAL

You are cordially invited to attend revival services at the Church of God in Okmulgee, OK on October 20-22. Services are scheduled for Friday and Saturday evening at 7:30. On Sunday morning regular services will begin at 11:00. An Inspirational singing is planned for Sunday afternoon at 2:00 p.m.. Bro. Hayward Cox has a burden for the meeting.

For further information contact Bro. Robert Warren at (405) 396-2839.

SPECIAL NOTICES

MONARK TAPES AND CDs

Recorded cassette tapes and CDs of singing and also of preaching from the 2006 Monark Springs camp meeting are now available as follows:

Two cassette tapes of congregational singing and one cassette tape of special singing.

Two CDs of congregational singing and one CD of special singing.

Cassette tapes of messages preached during the Monark camp meeting (list available upon request).

To order any of the above you may contact Harlan Sorrell by phone at (417) 938-4336 or by email hsorrell@ortrackm.missouri.org or by U.S. mail at Rt. 1 Box 118A, Myrtle, MO 65778.

To order CDs of messages preached during the Monark camp meeting please contact Justin or Angela Sorrell by phone at (417) 748-1522 or by email jusnangela@yahoo.com or by U.S. mail at 447 Twilight Dr., Crane, MO 65633.

Justin is also requesting that anyone who bought a CD from him during the Monark camp meeting and later found it to be faulty please contact him for a replacement of that CD.

—Submitted by Harlan Sorrell



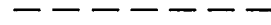
LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

KY—Dear Brethren: Greetings unto you all in Jesus' precious name! We are much encouraged in the Lord. I wanted to write in a testimony of something the Lord has done here recently that I told Him that I would glorify Him for. Within the past week or so our little girl, Haley, had a reddish color to the whites of one of her eyes and then a little to both. She also had a little clear drainage. I became concerned that it might be pink eye. We had her anointed and prayed for. She was also experiencing eye pain and itching. I kept monitoring her eyes. Saturday morning (August 26) after Bro. Matt left for work I felt impressed to stay awake and have prayer and Bible study. I usually go back to bed at that time but this morning I got on my knees and began to pray. I was praying for Haley and I hadn't been praying for very long and the Lord gave me the scripture in Psalm 34:19, "Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all." When the Lord gave me that scripture it surprised me for I had not been praying very long at all. I didn't expect my answer so quickly. But I praise God for two things. One, for the answer which came so quickly, and two, it wasn't even pink eye. We suspect allergies because her eyes are just fine. Praise God! The redness isn't like it was and she hasn't said a word about them hurting or paining her. Praise the Lord! I knew HE would touch her. I asked Him to do this so when she is older she can look back and it would help her to want to live for the Lord and because I wanted Him to

have all the glory. The Lord has sent His Holy Spirit to me many times within the last year to witness and minister to me and to my needs at that moment. I give Him all the praise.

Pray for us that we will stay faithful and true to the Lord and His cause and work. By His help we want to raise our children so that they will desire to live for Him. The Lord is our joy and treasure. Pray for us. Love and prayers,

—Sis. Sarah C. Howard



OK—Dear Bro. Willie and the Print Shop workers: I went to the spring and summer meetings at Boley, OK. I felt blessed. I was anointed and prayed for and I do thank the Lord for how He has blessed me. Still remember me in your prayers. Christian love,

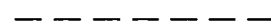
—Sis. Mary O. Jones



OK—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greetings to you once again in the Holy name of Jesus our Lord. We appreciate the blessings of the Lord upon your work and labor of love in sending forth the pure gospel of Jesus Christ. John saw it and called it "the everlasting gospel" in Revelation 14:6. Peter called it "the word of the Lord" and said it "endureth for ever" in I Peter 1:25. Paul said it is "the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth" in Romans 1:16. He also called it the "gospel of peace" in Ephesian 6:15 and referred to it as giving us "everlasting consolation and good hope through grace" and He bids us to take comfort in it which will help us to be stablished in every good word and work. (II Thessalonians 2:16-17.) He also said "But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil." II Thessalonians 3:3. Peter said it is preached unto you "...with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into." I Peter 1:12.

His Word is worth us looking into with all of our hearts.

We want to give thanks to God for what He has done for my wife in helping and healing her. She is able to sleep better and to rest more. We thank all the saints who remembered her in prayer. Your brother in Christ, —T. V. McMillian



From the Philippines...

August 22, 2006—Dear Bro. Willie, Greetings in Jesus name, our Redeemer. We are sad, but in spite of what happened to us this early morning, we thank God, He saved our lives. Two

robbers went to Jon's house this morning at 2:00 am. One went inside the house and the other one remained outside as the "look-out." We were soundly asleep. We thank God, they did not hurt us physically. Only money was taken from Jon and me, but from Arlene, money, credit cards and identification cards. I thank God Arlene was awakened when the robbers entered her bedroom and she immediately shouted. That is when we all awakened, but the robbers fled from the house. They were so fast they got away. All of our lights were on outside the house before we went to sleep. We thought that this would hinder them since a fence has not been erected yet. Before we went back to bed, we gathered in prayer and thanked God for sparing our lives, and then we turned off the lights. While I am writing this letter, again they came back, 5:00 a.m. and tried to open our door but immediately I switched on the lights and then we all went out. But they ran so fast. Please pray for us. We need that. Thank you so much.

Your sister In Him,

—Nellie Tibayan



Dale L. Doolittle was born on July 28, 1930, to Francis E. and Mabel C. (Nichols) Doolittle, in Texico, NM. He went to be with the Lord on August 6, 2006, at the age of 76.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 53 years, Dora (Freeman) Doolittle, both of his parents; his sister, Ruby Williamson; two brothers, Melvin and Glenn; son Gary Lynn Doolittle and granddaughter, Christa Deanne Doolittle.

He leaves a lasting heritage of faith and hope to his surviving family, six children, Irma Sallee of Guthrie, OK; Mancil and Shirley Doolittle of Greenbank, WV; Dan and Cheryl Doolittle of Guthrie, OK; Larry Doolittle of Pierce City, MO; Ron and Nancy Doolittle of Guthrie, OK; and

Mike and Sandy Anderson also of Guthrie, OK; 29 grandchildren, 23 great grandchildren, two sisters, Edith Huskey of Seattle, WA; and Nelda Sorrell of Guthrie, OK; and a host of friends and relatives.

Bro. Dale and Sis. Dora served as caretakers of the Monark Springs campgrounds for about five years in the 1970's. The Monark Springs campgrounds held a special place in Bro. Dale's heart and he loved returning when his health and God's will permitted. He so enjoyed the fellowship of the saints and the presence of God. With his health failing, his last request was to enjoy that experience one more time. God honored his request. He touched his body and Bro. Dale attended Monark Springs camp meeting where he was richly blessed. He returned home to Guthrie, OK and exactly one week later God graciously welcomed him home.

As he was leaving Monark this year, he left this note of thanks and testimony to the saints there:

Dear Saints:

I cannot leave without telling you how much I have enjoyed seeing you and sharing the services with you this year. Your singing has been so inspiring and the messages, each one, have been right on target.

In the days and weeks prior to this meeting, attending seemed impossible for me. When I told the Hospice nurse I wanted to come she found it incredible that I would travel 200 miles to go to church three times a day for 10 days. I replied, "You go with us and attend one service and you will see why it's worth the effort." She said, "But Dale, you are a dying man." I told her, "I can't think of a better place to go than among another thousand saints."

God has spared me but I do feel like my crossing is getting near.

Thank you so much for all your cards, prayers and phone calls of encouragement.

Saints, it pays to trust the Lord. I've been saved since I was a teenager and He has never failed me. I want to be faithful all the way. As Bro. Ed Wilson has said many times, "The Lord has done enough for us in the past that I know I can trust Him all the way."

To our ministers; you've preached it, I lived it, and it worked.

Saints, hold on and let's all meet in Heaven. "I am waiting, I am longing for the summons to come." I'm not worried about getting a mansion over there, just get me inside the gate and set me down. Me and my new legs will take it from there.

With my love,

Bro. Dale Doolittle

As a family we all want to express our deepest appreciation to each of you for your prayers, notes, phone calls and most of all your friendship with Dad.

The words of this song state it so well:

*"And sometimes we laugh together, sometimes we cry,
Sometimes we share together, heartaches and sighs.
Sometimes we dream together, of how it will be
When we all get to Heaven. God's family."*

—The Dale Doolittle family.

— — — — —

Otha Mae Hampton was born August 12, 1918 to Gilbert and Milteda Hampton. Otha was the youngest of eight children. He passed from his earthly toils July 5, 2006.

He accepted Christ at an early age and attended the Church of God in Spencer, OK.

He grew up in Boley, OK and later became a farmer in this same community. Otha was better known as "Pete," the man who sold polk salad.

His father, mother and other siblings preceded him in death. He leaves to cherish his memory his loving niece, Lillie Timmons of Oklahoma City; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins; an adopted son, James Bradford and other relatives and friends.

Memorial services were officiated by Bro. Charles Chandler. Interment was at Hillcrest Memory Gardens, Spencer, OK.

— — — — —

Robson Dean Harmon was born February 28, 1972 to Robert D. and Norene (Cole) Harmon in Kansas City, MO. He departed this life May 28, 2006 at Northwest Medical Center in Bentonville, AR. His age was 34 years, 3 months.

He is survived by his wife, Suzanne and daughter, Lauryn, both of the home in Bentonville, AR; grandfather, Roy D. Harmon of Pea Ridge, AR; parents, Bob and Norene Harmon of Bentonville, AR; brothers, Roy D. Harmon of Benton, AR and Randen D. Harmon of Garfield, AR; nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and many cousins.

Memorial services were held at the Bentonville Church Of Christ June 2, 2006, with Bro. Ed Wilson and Bro. Butch Cole officiating. Burial was in the Bentonville Cemetery with Bro. Jerry Melot officiating.

Rob's wife found him early on that Sunday morning, unconscious and not breathing. He was rushed to the hospital as CPR was per-

formed. He never regained consciousness. The nurses told us to talk to him, as they knew he could hear and understand us. Since he was in ICU, only two at a time were permitted in his room. Norene at one point was with him by herself. She poured her heart out to him and told him that God had showed her a few days before that someone close would die and now she realized it would be him. She told him that if he was not ready, to pray and ask God to forgive him. There had been no response from him until then. At that time, big tears started rolling down his face. She prayed with him throughout the day. His family, some friends and several from the Neosho congregation were with him and praying all that day. Shortly before midnight, he went to meet his Maker. The hospital staff allowed us to fill the room with people that loved him.

Our loss was a shock to all of us as it was totally unexpected. We are very thankful to have that last day with him. Through all of it we have felt the effects of many prayers. At one point recently, Norene was grieving and praying for relief. It seemed the Lord spoke to her saying, "He would have been lost if I had not taken him now." That has been a comfort to us.

About 12 hours after Rob's passing, God sent us some sunshine. Randen's wife gave birth to a son, Robson D. Harmon.

Note of Thanks

We greatly appreciate the love and compassion shown to the family. There have been many cards, flowers, food, phone calls, money and prayers. We are still receiving cards. Several that had lost a child told us they knew how we felt and that was a real comfort that someone had been there before us and could share our grief. We have had some tell us that at a particular time they felt the urge to pray for us. It would be a time the grief was hitting us hard. We are truly grateful for your love shown to our family.

—Bro. Bob and Sis. Norene Harmon

— — — — —

Willie Johnson was born November 15, 1915, in Boley, OK. He was the ninth child of William Jenkins and Ida B. Johnson. He attended New Hope School.

Willie, "Tott" as he was affectionately called, lived on the home place north of Boley for years, until his health began to fail. He enjoyed work-

ing with the livestock and would look forward to Leo coming over with his wife and family. Willie also enjoyed singing. He would sing with his family. Everyone knew of the "Johnson Boys" and their singing. Whenever there was singing his deep, rich bass voice would blend right in. In fact, he seemed to always have a song on his heart, whether at work or relaxing, he could be heard humming or singing. He accepted Christ as his personal Savior and attended the Church of God in Boley, OK.

Willie would attend family gatherings in the home of his brother, Leo. He shared a special friendship with his sister-in-law, Lucille.

In 2000 he became a resident of the Golden Rule Home in Shawnee, OK, where he remained until his death. He cherished the visits of family and friends during his time there.

Willie departed this life April 29, 2006, at the age of 90 years. Both parents, five sisters and five brothers preceded him in death. Mr. Johnson never married, however, he leaves to cherish his memory, four brothers, Mansfield Johnson, Oakland, CA; A. C. Johnson, Oklahoma City, OK; Jewel and Odessa Johnson, Victorville, Ca; and Leo Johnson, Muskogee, OK; three sisters-in-law, Gladys Johnson, Boley, OK; Johnnie Lee Johnson, Oklahoma City, OK; and Juanita Johnson, Wichita, KS; along with a host of nieces, nephews, saints and friends.

Funeral services were officiated by Bro. Charles Lowe. Interment was at Chilesville Cemetery, Boley, OK.

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Alberta Ruth Lounds was born January 19, 1918. She was the sixth child born to George W. and Gertrude B. Lounds in Oklahoma City, OK. She spent most of her life in the area, graduating from Douglass High School. She passed from this life April 21, 2006.

Alberta was brought up in the Church of God and was faithful in attendance until her failing health. In her latter years, Alberta was frequently found singing hymns from the *Evening Light Songs* book. Her smile and laughter will be missed by all.

Alberta's parents; three brothers, Henry, Jesse and Stanley; four sisters, Oretta Price, Melia Viser, Mary Lounds, and Rosetta Lounds all preceded her in death. She leaves to cherish her memory, one sister, Juliette Lounds of Oklahoma City, OK; one brother, Carl Lounds of

Los Angeles, CA; a host of nieces, nephews, saints and friends.

Memorial services were officiated by Sis. Frances Chandler and Sis. Patsy Fields. Her body was laid to rest at Trice Hill Cemetery, Oklahoma City, OK.



Africa Report

The work in Africa continues to progress with more doors being opened all the time. There is a real need for qualified laborers to teach the gospel to souls that are hungry for truth.

The saints in Nigeria are planning a ministers' meeting in Tombia from September 28 - October 1. In November, the Port Harcourt congregation will be holding outreach meetings in the northern part of Rivers State. Please pray that the Lord will bless their efforts and that souls would be led into the Kingdom of God. We are looking to the Lord to provide means for the building of a chapel in the Kwale area.

I received an encouraging report from the saints in Malawi and Mozambique concerning the meetings held there the last few months. There were more than 500 people in attendance at Mbeza and 35 were baptized. Over 400 people traveled to the meeting at Chikungu and 55 were baptized. At Mononaji, Mozambique, over 400 people attended the services and 49 were baptized. I am thankful for those that attended the meetings and most of all for those who were baptized in obedience to Christ. Let us pray that the Lord will establish these new converts in truth and holiness.

Bro. Failos and Bro. Master, of Malawi, are traveling for three days by bicycle (one way) this weekend to hold a meeting in Mozambique. There is much hardship that these brethren face as they labor for the Lord. Let us remember them in our prayers that the Lord will sustain and strengthen them for the work.

Time is running out as the world gets more and more wicked. It is not time to sit back and wait for the coming of our Lord, but it is time to rise up and work until that last great day. Let us be challenged to continually carry a burden for the lost and to be faithful to do our part in the work of the Kingdom. May we ever keep Christ in the forefront of every endeavor and effort.

In the Lord,

—Bro. Michael Smith

“...I Being in the Way, the Lord Led Me To the House of My Master’s Brethren.”

These words from Genesis 24:27 were uttered many years ago by a God-fearing servant of Abraham’s who, at his master’s request, was called to go on a special journey to procure a future bride for his only son, Isaac.

Abraham, being at a ripe old age and one whom God had wonderfully blessed in all things, was at this time especially concerned as to a life companion for his beloved son. He was decidedly against a daughter being chosen from among those Canaanites by which he lived. He surely must have weighed spiritual influence, as influence is contagious either for good or evil. And being aware of this, great precaution must be taken to choose one who was worthy to fill a position as wife for his only son who had been reared strictly in the fear of the Lord.

In reading the account of Abraham’s life, we can discern he was a person of real spiritual discernment and one whose example is wise to follow. First, to be trusted with this all-important matter he must necessarily put it in the hands of one who truly feared God, therefore would actually know the worth of prayer. Now, this servant starts on his mission in no wise trusting to his own decision nor to another, no difference how intelligent or how learned that person may be. It must be God’s leading, and that alone.

I can imagine how all along that journey he prayed **without** ceasing, even requesting a sign from the Most High lest a mistake be made regarding the right person. Could God disappoint when such faith was being exercised, when such fervent petitions were being made? No! Positively no! for is He not a prayer hearing and a prayer answering God? To condense this episode, we read how in every measure prayer was wonderfully answered even to the giving of a sign. The servant, realizing this, and he being so thankful and appreciative, could affirm: “I being in the way, the Lord led me to the house of my master’s brethren.”

How thankful and prayerful the saints of today need to be lest we get discouraged and faint by the way. It requires a constant looking above. History repeats itself. Abraham is not alone in seeking a bride for his only son; for is not the Father above seeking a special Bride for His only Son Jesus Christ Who someday will

come in the clouds with power and great glory to receive His own?

In Ephesians 5:27 a description is given of this Church or Bride, and nothing less will pass inspection. It is “a Bride without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, holy and without blemish.” According to Proverbs 14:12 we are distinctly told, “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” It requires much watching and praying lest the saints of God get side tracked and the preaching of smooth things be presented, therefore when the Bridegroom arrives unexpectedly we be found without the wedding garment. We can only afford to stand before our Master clothed in His righteousness, for we have none of our own.

Evil days are here; satan assuredly seems to be loosed for a season and is going about to deceive the nations from the four quarters of the earth, even to deceiving the very elect if possible. I am wondering if he is not afflicting the bodies of the saints, as so many are standing in the need of prayer for healing. Apparently the time has arrived as prophesied: “...not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord:” Amos 8:11.

As Abraham sent a dependable representative to attend to his matter of business in his day, so doth God expect His representatives to be true in declaring the whole council of God in these days—ambassadors who will, regardless of persecution, financial difficulties, or whether it be in the most isolated places or city or town they may be called to labor, do it cheerfully with the reward of perishing souls in view.

As the writer has observed the testimony of Abraham’s servant and has been encouraged by it, so may the servants of God be encouraged through prayer, at last to affirm also: “I being in the way, the Lord led me to the house of my Master’s brethren” and therefore receive the reward of the faithful in inheriting those mansions prepared from the foundation of the world. When the Master has come and calls for His Bride, washed in the blood of the crucified One, hallelujahs will ring in that city so fair; when the Redeemed have gathered to praise Him up there.

—Laura Bowman

(Reprinted from September 1956 *Faith and Victory*.)

Suppose

Suppose, according to one writer, the apostle Paul wrote a letter like this in reply to the "Macedonian Call:"

"Dear Brethren in Christ: Doubtless you remember the invitation you extended to me to come over to Macedonia and help the people of that section. You will pardon me for saying that I am somewhat surprised that you should expect a man of my standing in the church to seriously consider a call on such meager information. There are several things I would like to know before giving you my decision, and I would appreciate you dropping me a line, addressing me at Troas.

"There is one important item that you overlooked in your brief and somewhat sudden invitation. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF THE SALARY I was to receive. While it is true I am not preaching for money, there are certain things that need to be taken into account. I have been through a long and expensive training and hold several degrees; in fact, I may say with pride that I am a Sanhedrin man—the only one in the ministry today.

"The day is past when you may expect a man to rush into a new field without some idea of support he is to receive. I have worked up myself to a good position in the Asiatic field, and to take a drop and lose grade would be a serious matter, nor can I afford to swap dollar for dollar as the saying is.

"Kindly get the Macedonian brethren together and see what they can do in the way of support. You have told me nothing beyond the implication that the place needs help. What are the social advantages? Is the church well organized?

"I recently had a fine offer to return to Damascus at an increase of salary, and I am told that I made a favorable impression on the church at Jerusalem. If it will help the Board at Macedonia you might mention these facts to them, and also some of the brethren in Judaea have been heard to say that if I kept on, I might have anything in the gift of the church. For recommendations, write Rev. Simon Peter, D. D., Jerusalem. I will say that I am a first class mixer and especially strong on argumentative preaching. Sincerely yours, Rev. Dr. Paul, D. D."

I am glad that this is not so. What a difference between Paul and the worldly-minded preachers of today!

—Selected

A Vision of Life in Death

*In evil long I took delight,
Unawed by shame or fear,
Till a new object struck my sight
And stopped my wild career;
I saw One hanging on a Tree
In agonies and blood,
Who fixed His languid eyes on me,
As near His cross I stood.*

*Sure never till my latest breath
Can I forget that look;
It seemed to charge me with His death,
Though not a word He spoke:
My conscience felt and owned the guilt,
And plunged me in despair:
I saw my sins His blood had spilt,
And helped to nail Him there.*

*Alas! I know not what I did!
But now my tears are vain:
Where shall my trembling soul be hid?
For I the Lord have slain!
A second look He gave, which said,
'I freely all forgive;
The blood is for thy ransom paid;
I die, that thou may'st live.'*

*Thus, while His death my sin displays
In all its blackest hue,
Such is the mystery of grace,
It seals my pardon too.
With pleasing grief and mournful joy,
My spirit now is filled
That I should such a life destroy,—
Yet live by Him I killed.*

—John Newton

“Examine Yourself Whether Ye Be In The Faith.”

In the lives of a great many people today “the church”—or anything that resembles the church—seems to have taken the place of God. This twentieth century “goddess” appeases the consciences of her worshipers, and in her shadow they seem to feel great rest and security.

Few people today are troubled about their relationship with the Creator. Most of them feel that the church has assumed this responsibility for them. The minister is hired to bear the burden of doctrine and religious duty, and to him the laity entrust the welfare of their souls. Thus they are relieved of practically all sense of religious duty, and consequently they have much more time to devote to the affairs of this life.

But this is a false foundation. Numbers of people who attend church regularly have never had any definite change of heart or experience with the Lord. They have merely joined a church—not the body of Christ.

No church can save a man’s soul. There is no salvation in any institution of man—nor has the Lord invested any earthly representative with the sole power of salvation. The experience of conversion is a personal thing between the Creator and His creatures.

“And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:13. This is the first essential step toward a new life: to SEEK the Lord in prayer—the more earnest, the more desperate that prayer; the quicker the results.

Down through the years many souls have been able to open the gates of communion before the throne of God, by fasting and seeking the Lord in times of great need. But it seems characteristic of human nature that there must almost always be some great trouble or strife to prod a soul into really searching for God above all else; truly seeking reconciliation with the Lord, and forgiveness for sin.

“Therefore if any man be in Christ he is a new creature:...” II Corinthians 5:17. Paul also declares here that “...old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” And in Colossians he tells us that the Father “...hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:” Colossians 1:13.

In speaking to Nicodemus, Jesus said: “...Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” John 3:3. Being “born again”

is an experience which every man should vividly remember; it is his first real contact with the Spirit of God. Surely when this contact is made, the seeker must be aware of it.

In the book of Ezekiel there is recorded a promise of the Lord to the remnant of His people that He will put a new spirit within them, and “...I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh:” Ezekiel 11:19. This is the “new covenant” spoken of in Hebrews 8:8. This heart-removing operation which God performs is a most glorious work, and with the “new spirit” that is put within us, we truly become sons of God. “Hereby **know** we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.” I John 4:13.

Many people today have been raised in religious homes, and have attended church services and Sunday school from infancy; but have had no definite change of heart and spirit.

Bible Lessons



“Beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord,
we are CHANGED” II Cor. 3:18

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They believe in the Lord, and they try to live Christian lives; yet like the rich young ruler who sought the Lord, they realize that there is something that they yet lack. My friend, if this has been your experience, you cannot go far wrong if you follow the counsel that Jesus gave to this young man. And after you have followed the first part of this counsel, continue to "tarry until you be endued with power from on high." This simply means to seek God in prayer: put away all earthly things for a time, and give yourself to prayer.

Such prayer made continually day and night by an honest soul, must eventually become "fervent," and "fervent" prayer "availeth much." If you "hunger and thirst after righteousness" in this manner, you will surely be filled.

"...he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will **manifest myself to him.**" John 14:21. Here is an absolute promise that the Lord will make Himself known to YOU, when you seek Him with all of your heart. —Selected

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN

How wonderful to know that there is One:

*The everlasting God Who lives above,
Who spoke the Word, and all was fully done,
Created by His mighty hand of love.*

*All things were made by Him and given life,
The sun, moon, stars, and this terrestrial ball:
Who lives on high, Who sees the sin and strife,
And hears the words and thoughts of one and all.*

*But, though through all of His Almighty pow'r
All things consist, yet He is loving, kind:
He pities like a Father every hour
The souls of men His wisdom so designed.*

*Long suff'ring, patient, gentle, good, and wise,
His heart is reaching out with all good will,
To help us, we are precious in His eyes,
He yearns with happiness our hearts to fill.*

*Although His anger has been kindled oft,
And men have reaped the harvest of His wrath:
Yet t'ward the poor, His heart is ever soft,
And in His love He winnoweth our path.*

*We need to fear and reverence His name,
Depart from evil, seek to do the good:
And render love and faith, a fervent flame,
To Him each day, and serve Him as we should.*

*We owe Him all our love and gratitude,
Obedience to His Word and gracious Law,
He's worthy of our faithful servitude;
Before Him we should bow in holy awe.*

*He loves us dearly and has sought to prove
He knows and understands our ev'ry need:
Seek daily now His face and live and move
To please Him and His promises to plead.*

*He sees in secret, hears our ev'ry pray'r,
And works together all things for our good;
Have faith and cast on Him your ev'ry care,
And live a holy life as well you should.*

—Bro. Leslie Busbee

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