

# FAITH AND VICTORY

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## Church of God Servant



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## A Mother's Watchful Eyes

By Sis. Charlotte Huskey

"...A child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." Proverbs 29:15.

My mother's watchful eye kept me safe in my childhood, when I was playing hide-n-seek with neighbor children. I dashed into an abandon "out house" to hide; before I got the door closed a teenage boy jumped in beside me and locked the door. He proceeded quickly to get me to undress. I refused. He wasn't taking "no" for an answer. Right when I felt most helpless my brother, Jim, banged on the door and shouted loudly "Open-up." My mother, watching from our house a good distance away, had seen what happened. She called my brother from his hiding place to come and rescue me. A similar incident happened when I was either ten or eleven years old. Again, those watchful eyes saved me from permanent physical and emotional damage.

How grateful I am for those watchful eyes. These experiences, along with many others, built faith and trust into my life. I knew someone loved me enough to be watching me. I learned I could trust that person. I knew I was special to them. That helped me to feel secure, to feel loved.

As we grew older and were away from home, my mother often reminded us that she could not always know what we were doing, but God's eyes were watching and we'd have to suffer the penalty for misbehavior. It was easy for me to believe that God was watching. I grew up thinking my mother had eyes in the back of her head as well as in the front. It seemed she always knew what I was doing. No matter how secretly I acted, I got caught. It was natural for me to believe I would reap the consequences of my behavior (both good and bad). Under my mother's watchful eyes, I had been experiencing it for as long as I could remember.

This careful watching also caused me to be cautious about my behavior. "You can't do wrong and get by, no matter how hard you may try. Nothing hidden can be, everything He does see. You can't do wrong and get by." The words of this song rang true in my heart. Why did I feel the truth in that song? Mother's eyes had often caught me when I misbehaved.

What a difference in other children's lives. Many do not believe that anyone knows what they do. They seldom have had to "face-up" to wrongs they have committed, so they also have

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little fear of the consequences. I often ponder the void that must be in the hearts of children whose mother's do not watch them carefully or who are not with them during their waking hours.

Some mothers, who are with their children, seem not to observe what the children are doing. Others ignore their children's actions so they will not have to deal with them. I will confess, it is easier, at the moment, to ignore unacceptable behavior. I'll admit to having yielded to such temptations, and have reaped the result of this lethargy. Reaping is embarrassing and often painful.

Is it easy for a mother to keep an eye on a family of children? No, a thousand times no. However, if mothers could look down the road into their children's lives and see the pain they could save themselves and their children by watching over and training them in their formative years, perhaps it would help.

Was it easy for my mother to keep an eye on me? Certainly not! I was a hyperactive child, full of energy, running here and there from early morning until night. They tell me that as soon as I could walk, I was climbing. One day Mother heard me calling, "Lookey at me horsey." She went outside, and found me straddling the smoke house roof. It's still a puzzle how I got on that roof.

Some old wise sayings helped me through those years when I struggled to be diligent about keeping a watchful eye on my children. One was, "Nip it in the bud." The bud is just a little knot on a branch. However, it is the beginning of a new branch that could have the ability to become an enormous one. Buds show there is potential power, to bring forth flowers, leaves, or branches on a tree. To keep a tree from having low branches we pluck off the buds and no branches will grow in that place. If we pinch off flower buds, no flowers will appear. Children are developing habits as they grow. If we encourage good behavior, good habits will grow like flowers to brighten the child's life. When the possibility for a bad habit first shows life, a parent should pluck off the bud by not allowing the behavior to continue. That will stop the development of that habit.

Take stealing for example: a stealing habit is preventable if young children are disciplined for stealing from siblings right in the home. Nip any

habit, (disrespect, talking back, wastefulness, anger, laziness etc.) in bud form before it grows strong enough to control your child. In years to come you will be thankful, and you won't find yourself standing in a courtroom wringing your hands as you helplessly watch your child being escorted away to prison. Proverbs 16:32, "*He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.*"

"A stitch in time saves nine," is another old saying that helped me. Mothers mended their family's clothing back in the olden days, before it was fashionable to wear ragged clothes with patches and holes. Sewing up a small tear was easy and took only a few minutes. If the rip was left untended, it would soon be large. Repairing it would take nine stitches to one compared to the small tear. Children's behavior is somewhat the same. Those little acts of stamping feet, arching the back, slapping, taking a sibling's toy, or speaking a defiant "no" can be corrected without severe discipline, however if left untended, a habit will develop that could take much time and effort to break.

Another wise saying is, "As the twig is bent." This is relating to forming good character in children. A tree will seldom grow straight without protection. In forests, the surrounding trees protect the young ones from strong wind. In fields and yards, men drive stakes in the ground and connect the young tree (the twig) to these stakes so the young twig will grow straight. Since good character cannot be developed by being tied to a straight stake. The parents constant vigilance (watchful eye) is needed to protect the child from evil influences that could develop into a depraved character.

Mothers and fathers must also perceive that evil influences come from within, as well as from without. Every child is born with a self-preservation personality. The more this personality develops, the more self-willed the child will become. Selfishness causes problems of many sorts, unhappiness, and rejection by others. A parent can help their child enormously by teaching them how to deal with these inner desires.

In years gone by, children and young adults arose and offered their seats to elderly persons, also gentlemen and boys gave their sitting places to females. Today, selfish children will ask an adult for their chair. Teaching a child to offer

their seat to another person is just one way to help develop a respectful, unselfish character, neither does it damage the child by giving him the feeling that he is not as important as the other person. Instead, it will cause the child to feel better about himself. (The praise and admiration he will receive from others serves to develop a better self-image.) Teaching respect for others, is teaching principles of God. "Before honor comes humility." "Do unto others as you would that they do unto you." "Love thy neighbor as thyself."

At what age should we start nipping the bud of unacceptable behavior? While the baby is still in your arms is the best time. When he or she arches his back in rebellion; that is the time to correct this developing habit of "having things my way." When the baby in your arms screams at you when he doesn't get what he wants, that is not the time to guess what he wants and try something until you satisfy him. It is your opportunity to "nip in the bud" habits that could strangle your child. You must be careful to use these opportunities. If you don't correct this habit, some day his or her blood curdling screams will be heard across the super market. That will be embarrassing. On the other hand, it could be disastrous when he or she is making important decisions for life and your advice is not accepted. Parents should realize that what seems like "innocent" habits can develop into monsters. When this happens, the child cannot be the person he or she wants to become, because some habit was allowed to grow until it begins controlling him.

Bad controlling habits remind me of the Kuzu vine that was introduced into the U.S. around 1875. In cold northern climates, it can be contained in favorable growing conditions. However, in the warm Deep South it has covered seven million acres of land, killing many trees, covering, abandon vehicles, buildings and whatever is in its path. I believe that over seven million young people are suffering (many in prison) because no one kept a watchful eye on them when they were in their formative years; they developed self destructive habits.

We thank God for mothers who will sacrifice their personal goals to tend to the children God has put in their care, also for fathers who support these mothers and provide life's necessities so that mothers can be with their children.

## This Side of Eternity

**Sis. Gladys Cashio**

"Judgement is surely coming, Coming for you and me. We will be judged that morning, for all eternity. Some will go into Heaven; others will be denied. Will you be in that number, Standing outside?"

Standing outside the portals of glory, think of that! Oh, look at the faithfulness of Christ our Lord, how He saves and keeps the soul for whosoever will come to Him, repenting and forsaking sin. Precious Jesus gave His life for us. Dear people, do not neglect salvation!

August 8, 1948, my brother, Owren Short, was made aware of his need of a Savior. Owren was born January 14, 1927, and at the tender age of 21 years, the good Lord dealt with Owren and he was gloriously saved.

I had a job nursing Sis. Louella Williamson, but had taken off and went home to visit my family. When Owren came in from work that evening, he was eager to tell me that the Lord was dealing with him and he was ready to go all the way with the Lord. There was a cottage meeting at mothers house that night and Owren testified, saying he wasn't saved but he wanted to be, and asked us to pray for him. Around ten o'clock, we got off to bed and at midnight he went to mother's room and said, "Mamma, my head is killing me." By this time we were rousing from our sleep and getting dressed. We then began praying for him. He said, "Don't pray for my body, pray for my soul, I want to be saved now!"

After a little while, he looked up with a sweet glow on his face, clapped his hands and said, "Praise the Lord, I'm saved." As he started to get back in bed he said, "get the Bible and read some good scriptures." This being done, he praised the Lord as we read and said, "That promise is now for me."

To make this story short, Owren went to be with the Lord the very next day at 4:15 p.m. Our precious bother took his flight to glory to be with our Savior. A few nights later I dreamed I went to the portals of Heaven, and in my dream the door was wide with big white columns on either side. I could not enter at that time, but Owren came and leaned on one of those columns, looked at me and said, "Gladys, I like it here!"

Not everyone may have the same experience, but the Word of God says, "Whosoever  
(Continued on page six.)

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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.

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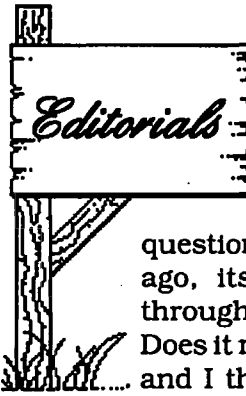
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"When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?" Matthew 16:13.

Since Jesus asked this question of His disciples many years ago, its relevance has remained throughout the passing ages of time. Does it really matter today what you and I think about who this Son of man called Jesus is? The answer is most certainly in the affirmative, for our eternal destiny hinges on our heartfelt response to this question. If we can come to the same conclusion, and answer with the same fervency that Peter offered to Jesus' inquiry, then we will have found a treasure that the masses of humanity have completely overlooked. The reality of who Jesus is and the significance of what He did for mankind can only be revealed to us by the convicting spirit of our Heavenly Father. Man, who is only looking with eyes of the flesh, will fail to experience the blessings that are found in Jesus Christ. Let us consider a few of the treasures that are to be found in Christ.

If we were to look for the natural treasures of the earth, is it not reasonable to understand that we must go looking for them in the right places? Many of those treasures are only found in mines that are dug deep into the earth. One could not expect to sit in their easy chair at home and find those treasures. No, they would be out looking, perhaps deep in the mines, drilling, digging, and searching. The same is true for spiritual treasure, if we would find treasures in Christ, then we must be found in Him searching, asking, and knocking for the rich blessings that He has to offer. The soul who will do this is going to be filled with wonderful spiritual treasure.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Corinthians 5:17. When a soul enters into the true doctrine of Christ through godly repentance and humility, he becomes a new creature. Sometimes the change is so great that people hardly recognize them any more. The change happens from the inside out! Their heart is made pure by the blood of Jesus. Their tongue can finally be tamed, vile, harsh words no longer sting everyone within earshot. Evil communications and filthy jokes

cease to be their delight. Threatening and blasphemies are quieted while uplifting words of comfort take their place. Finding our being in Christ and discovering spiritual treasure in Him brings all these wonderful things to pass.

Some people try to come to Christ and it is like they are making an earthly move. They have a big U-haul truck loaded up with their bad attitudes, earthly ideas, pride and self-righteousness. They come to the cross of Jesus Christ and start honking and making a racket expecting the gates of eternal life to open for them, and they don't understand why Christ doesn't open up and accept them in. Why not? Jesus said, "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matthew 7:14. The treasures of Christ can not shine in the life of those who are filled with these earthly weights. The soul must be emptied at the cross of Christ before entrance into His kingdom is granted. When a soul humbles themselves to go under the cross and blood of Jesus, they are immediately rewarded with forgiveness for their sins, a clean pure heart, and a conscience that is purged from dead works to serve the living God. These precious treasures are just the beginning, there is much more to find in Christ. The truckload of self is of no value to the one who finds everything in Christ. God has things in store for the Christian that are so much better. "But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:" I Corinthians 1:30. When the power of God enables us to be in Christ Jesus, we find His Word is a voice of wisdom that will teach us and lead us in the path that leads to life eternal. What greater treasure can be found than the precious jewel of godly wisdom. Oh, how it blesses all who comes into its presence! It clearly delineates right and wrong, good and evil, light and darkness. It brings discernment to the soul and exposes the traps and devices of satan before they can harm the soul. In Christ we find true righteousness that is anointed with the blessing of God. The righteousness of God is not motivated by pride and selfishness, but is pure and brings freedom and deliverance to the soul instead of capturing it in chains bondage.

In Christ we find sanctification that brings preservation and security to the pure state of the heart. With it also comes power to overcome

the wicked one and live a holy life. This treasure, that is possessed by the Christian, is a marvel to the world looking on. They just can't understand why the child of God is not destroyed by the same fears that plague the men of this world.

In Christ we have redemption. "...Oh, the glory of Calvary's love story..." Jesus loved mankind so much that He gave His life to purchase man's redemption. The child of God was originally created by God, but was subsequently brought into captivity to satan by sin. Jesus paid the price to buy back the soul of man and set him free from the condemnation of death. What a glorious freedom! Free to live forever in the presence of God! Free to enjoy life in the way God originally intended for it to be enjoyed! "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." Romans 8:1-2.

"But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." John 4:14. While the world is drinking from the wells of entertainment and from the kegs of alcoholic beverages that leaves them languishing in a drunken stupor, the thirst of the child of God is quenched by the refreshing vitality of living water. This spiritual water, which is only found in Christ, springs up in the heart of the Christian and gives a bright hope of everlasting life. This is real living the heavenly way!

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." John 15:5. In Christ, we can bring forth much fruit. It is in Him that we find the precious fruits of the Spirit, He produced them in abundance and we experience the blessing of His love, His longsuffering toward us, His gentleness and goodness. We have seen His meekness and temperance when men and devils tempted Him. The joy and peace that He enjoyed He has left for us to partake of and enjoy. We can also find them in Him and He gives us the power to produce these same spiritual fruits in our life. God's love goes much farther than the natural love that man has, it even gives us power to love our enemies and to do good to those who hate

us. God's love sets us free from hatred and malice. It gives us freedom from fear and the torment that fear brings. It gives us a sound mind and breaks through the superstitions that plague the fearful soul.

The list of treasures we find in Christ go on and on. Truly the child of God has riches in abundance. The world is basking in entertainment and enjoying a sense of wealth that is soon to be left behind. But there is left in their bosom a vacancy that cries out for God. All of the big screen, high definition devices of the world can not quench this continual cry of the soul. Only Christ can provide the treasure that man seeks. His answer and plan is able to lift a man out of the dark lonely prison of sin and fill his life with bright eternal hope. May every reader be challenged to search for and find these rich treasures in Christ that bring great blessings of freedom and peace to the never dying soul of man.

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

## This Side of Eternity

(Continued from page three.)

will," can have the experience of salvation. When the Word tells us "whosoever will," it really means just that. We also read, "The willing and obedient shall eat the good of the land."

Please lay aside all questions and unbelief, and by faith reach out to God. Then you will find that He is reaching out to you! Don't put off salvation! Thankfully, there is still time to get ready, the time may be short, why wait? Living for God is by far the best way, it pays the best dividends and keeps us happy here as we press on to glory land. It makes us love everybody causing us to try to reach out to others.

There isn't any thing so rich and satisfying as to know our sins are under Jesus' blood. "The love of God is greater far Than tongue or pen can ever tell; It goes beyond the highest star, And reaches to the lowest hell;" Come out of sinful bondage, it is deceitful and destructive. There is a pure highway, come now, eternity draws near!

"And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Hebrews 9:27.



LA—Remember Bro. Troy Gentry in prayer, he needs a special touch of healing from the hand of the Lord.

KY—Please pray for Bro. Dan Gellenbeck, he has been fighting a great battle with affliction.

## Standing Prayer Requests

Bro. Roger Anderson  
Sis. Agnes Burleson  
Bro. Gary Burleson  
Sis. Gladys Cashio  
Sis. Helen Carson  
Sis. Genevieve Carver  
Sis. Elizabeth Corteway  
Sis. Waneta Creel  
Bro. Terry Dawson Sr.  
Sis. Guy Domin  
Blake Doolittle  
Sis. Dorall Forbes  
Bro. Dan Gellenbeck  
Bro. Troy Gentry  
Jaden Howard  
Sis. Patsy Jordan  
Sis. Earnestine Jordan  
Sis. Karoline Kessler  
Bro. Mark and Sis. Darlene Knight  
Sis. Evodna Marler  
Sis. Virginia Myers  
Sis. Elsie M. Offerman  
Bro. Vernon Robinson  
Bro. David Runion  
Bro. Edward and Sis. Gloria Taylor  
The Mitch Taylor family  
Sis. Norma Tiller  
Bro. Delmar Wilkins  
Sis. Jan Wood

### My Prayer When Going Through Great and Tumultuous Trials and Everyday Trials

Joshua 4:1-24

Oh Lord help me to go through the Bible way. As I go through help me to get the stones that you have for me. Those priceless gold nuggets you want me to grab hold of, and learn You and Your way better. These nuggets can only be reached by going through the Bible way. That means at all times Lord, I have to act like Jesus would act, and respond like He would. Oh Lord help me. If I fall short of Christ, help me to quickly get up, make any needed corrections, and keep on walking through. As you took the Children of Israel through the Jordan and told them to get 12 stones as they went through, that's what you want me to do too Lord. I will have to stop and take note and grasp those things that you want me to learn about You, others, and myself. Help me to get a clear understanding of these things. You want me to get hold of those things Lord. Please help me Lord to get it so that the trial won't be in vain. So that I may get the most out of this trial that I possibly can. I know dear Lord that it really will work for my good. I believe that Lord. So help me to hold on and not give up and reach the other side in victory through Jesus. When others see my victory and how you did it Lord, I will have my "stones" that I carried through, my nuggets to remind me, and the world, of how God carries His children through. I will be able to tell others the things that you taught me in the midst of it all, so that they won't have to suffer as much as I did.

Oh praise God and Lord help me. Amen.

—Sis. Mary Robinson Nov. 28, 2012

### Every Life was Intended to be Beautiful and Outstandingly Useful

God has a plan for every life, a really great plan. God never made anything cheap or uninteresting.

He has equipped every life for a great career and a great destiny.

The key to wealth of personality, great experiences, and large service, God alone holds.

He challenges you to a wonderful friendship with Him. Out of this fellowship shall come your development, your empowering, your guidance, your success.

God is interested in you. He has great things for you to accomplish during your life time.

## MEETING DATES

**Alabama Spring Singing**—April 13

**Wichita, KS (Spring Revival)**—April 14-21

**Vanceburg, KY (Spring Meeting)**—May 17-19

**Oklahoma State (Guthrie, OK)**—

May 24-June 2

**Holly Hill, SC (Camp Meeting)**—June 5-9

**Sisters' Retreat (Okmulgee, OK)**—June 21-22

**Fresno, CA (Camp Meeting)**—June 30-July 7

**General Southern (Loranger, LA)**—

June 30-July 7

**Raymore, MO (Fall Meeting)**—Sept. 14-15



## MEETING NOTICES

### ALABAMA SPRING SINGING

The Church Of God congregation near Warrior, AL, is planning a singing for April 13th at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel. Activities will begin on Saturday morning at 10 a.m. at the C.W. Day Park in Hanceville, which is the same place we had it last year. On Sunday, April 14th, there will be services at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. with dinner on the chapel grounds.

Everyone is welcome! The chapel is located approximately two miles west of I-65 off exit 289 on Acton Bend Circle. For further information, please contact Roy Herron at (205-647-7869) or Marshall Whitson at (205-647-6325) or cell (205-317-5175)

### WICHITA, KS, SPRING REVIVAL

The Wichita congregation welcomes you to our spring revival. The meeting will run Sunday, April 14 through Sunday, April 21. Monday through Saturday, services will be held at 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. On Sunday, services will begin with Sunday School at 9:30 followed by Morning Worship at 10:45 and afternoon and evening services.

All are welcome! Chapel address: 2509 N Grove. For more information contact Bro. Emanuel Gracey at (316) 461-1267 or Bro. Theodore McCray at (316) 641-4170.

### VANCEBURG, KY, SPRING MEETING

Lord willing, the Vanceburg, Kentucky congregation will be holding a spring weekend meeting May 17-19th. There will be services on the grounds at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Friday

and Saturday, with Sunday morning service beginning at 10:00. There are rooms and RV/camper hook-ups on a first-come, first-served basis. There are also dorms available for those who wish to stay on the grounds and hotels within 15-20 miles. The weather is unpredictable, so come prepared for warm or cold weather. We also ask that you bring your own linens. The meeting is run on a free will offering. We trust that the Lord blesses and sends the ministers of His choosing. For more information you may call Bro. Dallas Cooper at (606) 796-3645 or (606) 202-1366, or Bro. Matt Howard at (606) 796-6729 or (606) 202-1766. God Bless. Christian love and prayers, the Vanceburg, KY congregation.

#### OKLAHOMA STATE CAMP MEETING

The annual Oklahoma State Camp Meeting of the Church of God will be held May 24-June 2, at the campground in Guthrie, OK. The first service will be on Friday evening, May 25, 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 the pastor, Bro. Phillip Gellenbeck (405) 282-2999

#### HOLLY HILL SC, CAMP MEETING

We would like to announce the meeting dates for the Holly Hill Camp Meeting. They are, June 5-9. Everyone is welcome. We have some rooms on the campground. Food will be served. Everything is run by free-will offering.

For further information call Sis. Beverly Pratt at (803) 496-3057 for arranging a place to stay. You may also call Bro. Clinton Crummie at (803) 759-0302 or Bro. Floyd Crummie at (803) 490-5768.

#### FRESNO, CA, CAMP MEETING

Come worship with us at the Church of God, Fresno, California for a Camp Meeting that will give hope for today that will last through tomorrow. The schedule of services are planned to begin, Lord willing, Sunday morning, June 30: Sunday School 9:30, Morning Worship 10:30, Afternoon Worship 2:00, Night Worship 7:00. Monday-Friday, July 1-5: Morning Worship 11:00, Night Worship 7:00. Saturday, July 6: Morning Worship 10:30, Afternoon Worship 2:00, Night Worship 7:00. Sunday, July 7: Sunday School 9:30, Morning Worship 10:30, Afternoon Worship 2:00.

Pray with us that each day the Holy Spirit will open our minds and reveal His truth to us; that we apply the truth to our lives and that He will guide us to a profound spiritual growth and a greater understanding of God and His Word.

"...Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20.

The chapel is located at 388 N. First St, Fresno, CA 93702. For further information you may contact Bro. Brian & Sis. Sheri Rich at (559) 486-9977, or Sis. Stephanie Pree at (559) 291-2726.

#### GENERAL SOUTHERN, CAMP MEETING

The General Southern Camp Meeting at Loranger, Louisiana is scheduled to begin Sunday, June 30, with morning and evening services daily through Sunday, July 7. If you can join us, come praying for a blessing.

There are separate dormitories available for the sisters and 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 or to request family accommodations, contact Bro. Carlos Doolittle at (985) 878-8122. Email correspondence may



be sent to [cdoolittle@selu.edu](mailto:cdoolittle@selu.edu) (Please label all messages as Re: Camp Meeting). The chapel phone is (985) 878-2788. Please do support this meeting with your prayers.

## The Strength of Silence

If you want to listen to the one voice in your heart—God’s voice, you must bid all other voices cease. Have you ever heard the nightingale? When all other birds are silent and the stillness of the night is over the woods, you can hear its voice burst forth in a tone so pure that even the silence is not disturbed by it.

There must be in your heart a silence as hushed as that of the night waiting for the morning, before you can hear His voice speaking through it in the new strength that comes to you, all the voices of this world must cease. Whether they are voices of sorrow or hope, disappointment or joy, discontent or satisfaction, you must lay aside your own small life that you may hear in the silence of your soul, the “Be still, and know that I am God.”

...The Lord, Himself, pointed out the way to you. He went into the mountains alone, and when there in the silence He had found His God-given strength, He came back and gave of it freely. Those were moments which none of His disciples ever shared with Him. Even your own highest thoughts which you may have consecrated to the Lord’s service must be left behind that you may not turn to them for help, but stand alone, that every thought and feeling may be filled with the new life coming to you in your silent waiting. You may ask questions by the hundred and read hundreds of volumes, but no answer or knowledge coming to you in that way will be worth the gain of one hour of that silent communion. When you have found the “secret of His presence,” the libraries can be locked and double-locked and you will find your God in spite of them.

The Lord Himself and He only, holds the key to your soul, and you must take it from His own hand. The deepest truths can not be put into words, but only felt in the heart. The Lord showed this in His teachings here on earth, in what He left unsaid, rather than in what He said; and it is through the wonderful silence of the Gospel stories that we feel the Divine strength of His life. The Star of Bethlehem brilliant in the night.

...Of all feelings that may come to you, the greatest and deepest is your consciousness of the Lord’s life in you. It is an individual experience new with every new human being. You have been taught, perhaps in a very general way, what is understood by a spiritual life, and you feel instinctively a desire to experience what is so much spoken of and written about. And in moments of sorrow, when you are forced into a more conscious life, you want this something which is so great a comfort to others. Then do not look to words spoken or written to explain it to you, at the best they are only the guideposts along the road pointing the way, but the way you must tread yourself step by step, in the strength gained in silence. —GT Sept. 27, 1900



**Gail Randolph Kelly** made his entrance into the world on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 1941. He was the firstborn child of Opal and Earnest L. Kelly of Oklahoma City, OK. He attended several schools in the Shawnee and Oklahoma City areas, graduating from Shawnee Senior High School.

From a young age Gail had a love for animals and country life. He and his younger brother Earnest, whom he named “Buddy,” cared for many animals during their growing up years. When he was 11, he and his brother started throwing newspapers, with the help of their dad. After losing his father at the young age of 13, he took on the responsibility of earning a wage to help fill his dad’s shoes. He continued throwing newspapers and went on to work as a soda jerk, a shoe salesman, flour mill worker and delivery man, railway express messenger, truck farm gardening, oil rig rough necking, raising cattle, wheat and rye farming and making cabinet doors. Gail was the jack-of-all-trades and the master of most.

Gail met his future sweetheart and the love of his life, Nina Mae Classen when he was 14

while working as a soda jerk in Oklahoma City. Nina and a small group of young people stopped at the Duncan Drugstore to say hello on the way back from the Dover, OK camp meeting. Gail bought everyone in the group a 35 cent banana split. A few years later, they began dating, fell in love and were married on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1959 only three days after his graduation. They made their home in Shawnee, OK.

In 1971, while working at Western Electric in Oklahoma City, Gail received a call from his father-in-law Alferd Classen to move to the family farm west of Fairview to work. The next 41 years were full of "living TOUGH, working HARD and loving LIFE."

As a young adult, Gail gave his heart to the Lord. From this personal experience, he and his wife Nina raised their five children, teaching them to love and serve God. They also instilled in them a strong work ethic. Gail was an example of what he taught, working behind the scenes for the Lord, quietly performing the duties of trustee by serving on the local, state and national boards of the Church of God.

On October 11<sup>th</sup> 2012, at the age of 71, Gail peacefully passed away at home after a short illness. He was called home by his Savior early Thursday morning at his normal waking hour of 5 a.m.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Earnest L. and Opal Kelly, and his mother and father-in-law, Martha and Alferd Classen.

He is survived by his wife, Nina, his five children, Galen and wife, Lisa, of Ponca City, OK; Kimberly and husband, Dwight, of Tulsa, OK; Kathryn and husband, Rod, of Monroe, LA; Phillip and wife, Gwendolyn, of Fairview, OK; Angela and husband, Brent, of Neosho, MO; fourteen grandchildren and two spouses. One brother, Earnest "Buddy" E. Kelly, and wife, Jeanie, of Idabel, OK; one brother-in-law, Leroy Classen; three sisters-in-law, Erona, and husband, George Cope; Bula Ann Smith; Irene, and husband, Dewayne Cravens; and many nieces and nephews.

Memorial services were held at the Cedar Springs Nazarene Church on October 15, 2012. The services were officiated by Bro. Willie E. Murphey, Bro. Leslie Busbee and Bro. Bob Wilson. Interment followed at Fern Cliff Cemetery, west of Fairview, OK.

#### Note of Thanks

The family of Gail Kelly would like to thank all those who shared their love with us during Gail's illness and passing. Your prayers calls,

cards, flowers, food, words of comfort and deeds of kindness were very meaningful and are sincerely appreciated. May God bless each one for your continued love and prayers.

— — — — —  
**George Montgomery** was born on August 8, 1938, in Guthrie, OK to Alvin and Mae (Chapman) Montgomery. He passed away Wednesday, January 16, 2013, in Cullman, AL.

George was a talented builder and was always willing to help with the building projects of his local congregation. He was very instrumental in the construction of the chapel and school in Guthrie, OK, and likewise assisted in the remodeling of the chapel in Alabama. His love for the Lord was accented by a cheerful disposition toward his fellow man and an energetic enthusiasm for life.

George is survived by his daughter, Julie Herron of Cullman, AL; son, Randy Montgomery and wife, Denise, of Guthrie, OK; sisters, Joyce Jones and husband, Robert, of Delta, CO; Carol Ham and husband, Carl, of Guthrie, OK; Jody Taylor of Guthrie, OK; and Freda Melton of Wynnewood, OK; brothers, Leon Pyle of Oklahoma City, OK; Fred Pyle and wife, Snow, of Piedmont, OK; Les Pyle and wife, Mary, of Cashion, OK; and Randolf Melton and wife, Lisa, of Wynnewood, OK; eight grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Juanita Davis Montgomery, daughter, Lori LaCroix, and son, Sammy Montgomery.

— — — — —  
**Rebecca Ann (Sorrell) Shaffer** was born, February 20, 1953, in Myrtle, MO., and was called home to be with Jesus on January 21, 2013, at her home in Meeker.

Born in the living room of their little farm house in Myrtle, Rebecca was the youngest of eight children born to Audie and Tola Ann Sorrell. One sister and six brothers eagerly welcomed her into their home. Her mother passed away when Rebecca was almost four, leaving a great void in her family's lives. She also lost two brothers at a young age, but her family carried on with strength and grace. She attended Couch school until third grade and finished her school years at Thayer Schools—graduating in 1971. Farm life kept her family busy, as her father owned a chicken egg farm. Rebecca was a main part of this business all its working years, up until the egg farm closed down in 1981.

In 1972, Rebecca met Carl Shaffer at a friend's wedding. It wasn't until 1981 that they became serious, and soon developed a loving relationship that led to marriage on May 7, 1983. Rebecca's only sister and "other mother," passed away in November 1983, leaving her with another void.

In May 1987, Carl and Rebecca welcomed a sweet little redheaded baby girl into their family. And again, in November 1988, another sweet baby girl joined their family! They thought their family was complete, until God gave them the surprise of twin boys! They were overjoyed but their excitement was short lived, as God decided He needed the twins more than Carl and Rebecca. On January 2, 1990, they laid their sweet baby boys to rest.

Rebecca was faithful in standing beside her husband Carl and assisted him with his ministry over their 29 years together. Early in their courtship, Carl told her he was looking for a spouse that was willing to travel in the Gospel work and asked if she was willing to do that. After a brief pause to think about it, she said, "yes." She kept that promise and they did a lot of traveling to meetings and appointments throughout the years. In 1987, the Lord gave a burden and they began their first pastorate with the Church of God in Guthrie, OK. From 1991 until 1998 they traveled in evangelistic work. In the summer of 1998 they felt a burden to pastor the congregation in Holly Hill, SC, where they resided and labored for nearly 6 years. In 2004, their burden changed and they moved to Meeker, OK to serve as pastor of the Shawnee, OK congregation. Rebecca loved children and often taught their Sunday school class. She also was a song leader and served as the secretary-treasurer for the congregation in Shawnee for several years.

Rebecca was preceded in death by her infant twin boys; parents, Audie and Tola Sorrell; two brothers, Junior and Benny Sorrell; one sister, Eva Lou Sorrell Gaines; one brother-in-law, Clayton Gaines; one sister-in-law, JoAnn Sorrell; five nieces, two nephews, and many special aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, and family.

Rebecca is survived by her loving husband, Carl, of the home; two precious daughters, Cynthia (and soon to be son-in-law Derek) of Green Bank, WV; and Ladonna of Kirksville, MO; four brothers with their wives, Leon Sorrell

of Pea Ridge, AR; Thomas and Myrtle Sorrell of Guthrie, OK; Sam and Sharon Sorrell of Bartlett, KS; Paul and Lynette Sorrell of Verona, MO; one sister-in-law, Doris Halladay; 18 nieces and nephews; 56 great-nieces and nephews; 18 great-great-nieces and nephews, along with a host of many special cousins, friends, and family members.

The funeral Services were held January 25, 2013, in the Church of God chapel in Guthrie, OK with Sis. Maxine Busbee officiating assisted by Bro. Leslie Busbee and Bro. Phillip Gellenbeck. Interment was at Summit View Cemetery, Guthrie OK with Bro. Paul Sorrell officiating.

**A note of thanks from the Shaffer family**

We want to extend special thanks to the ministers and Saints in general that carried a burden for Rebecca during her illness. Thank each one for the beautiful flowers, cards, and offerings and the love freely expressed to us. May God bless each one richly!

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2/13

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## Victory Like David

Sis. Lana Johnson

*David stood facing Goliath,  
Armed only with his sling.  
There was no reason for him to fear,  
He knew God controlled everything.*

*Goliath came out against David,  
Defying the God of Heaven.  
He didn't think he could be beat,  
But thought victory to him would be given.*

*David had picked five smooth stones  
To use in his little sling.  
He chose the one called Faith,  
And he gave that rock a fling!*

*He brought that giant to the ground,  
Then he ran to him to slay.  
The Lord gave a mighty victory  
To little David that day!*

*Now we stand before a giant,  
And his name is Unbelief.*

*Are we going to face him bravely  
Or turn away in fear and grief?*

*So many in this world today,  
Our Lord and God are defying.  
To the powers of evil they're bowing,  
And God's existence they are denying.*

*With all the abominations  
That are happening in our land,  
People are not acknowledging  
Their lives are in God's hand.*

*Because wickedness is abounding,  
We must keep "steady as we go."  
Not giving in to these spirits,  
But the rock of Faith we must throw!*

*Let us stand and fight like David,  
Not fearing the strength of the throng.  
God will give us each one the victory,  
If by grace we stand firm and strong!*

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