

JUNE 15, 1966

NUMBER TWELVE

NO NIBBLES?

THE FAMILY AND THE CHURCH

BAPTIST HERALD



NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST GENERAL CONFERENCE

Father and His Day

By Pauline C. McConnell

THE FATHER IS the head of the house. He sits at the head of the table, of course, but his responsibilities as head are far more than this. They differ with each family and with the stage of the family's life.

If you were asked what your father did, you might think a moment and reply: "My father brings home the money needed to support us. He fixes everything around the house. He helps us with our problems and signs our report cards. He takes care of chores around the house and washes the car." You could name hundreds of things your father does from the time he arises in the morning until he retires at night.

Let us think about father for a little while. Who pays for your everyday needs? Who pays the fare for vacation trips and all your clothes? Who pays for the food you eat and for your shelter? Why, father!

Did you know the idea of Father's Day started over fifty years ago? For a few years the custom died down. Then a Father's Day Committee was formed and since then, father has had his special day every year on the third Sunday in June. On Father's Day, people wear a lovely red rose for living fathers or a white rose for those who have died.

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR FATHERS

The committee also prepared a set of ten commandments for fathers. They are that father must:

- (1) instill into his children a sense of brotherhood;
- (2) teach them good sportsmanship and fair play;
- (3) set an example of family solidarity;
- (4) make pals of his children;
- (5) impart to them a burning desire to love, honor, and obey their Master and their country's laws;
- (6) encourage them to apply themselves to difficult tasks;
- (7) lead in community affairs;
- (8) promote self-reliance and do-it-yourself activities;
- (9) prepare for the future security of the family and thus develop a sense of responsibility; and
- (10) guide and prepare children for the duties and responsibilities of citizenship in a free society.

Stop and think for a few moments about your father. "Why, all along he has been obeying every one of these commandments to the letter, and I have been so busy with my own pleasures and desires, I never gave him much thought," you will find yourself saying. On Father's Day, it is only right that we pay homage to him.

Take a good look at your father and remember all of his good qualities for which you have to be thankful. Plan to do something special for him on his day. Tell him of your love and admiration. Buy him some gift he has wanted, but had to forgo because you always needed something more.

A boy might ask his father to play a game or to take a long hike. There is nothing like a hike to help a boy get to know his father better, and learn more of the joys of living.

Whatever you choose to do for your father on his special day, remember to show him by word, deed, and action that he is really a very important person to you, and the best pal you have ever had, or would ever want.

(Reprinted from *Lighted Pathway*, June, 1964).

NEWS and NEEDS...

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Aaldyk were appointed by the Board of Missions as missionaries to the Bull Indian Reserve in Alberta. Mr. Aaldyk is a 1966 graduate of the Christian Training Institute. They began their service on the field officially May 1.

Rev. George W. Lang, missionary to Cameroon, has been granted an extended furlough due to illness. Continue to pray for his return to health. He and his family are residing in Burlington, Iowa.

Rev. Fred C. Folkerts, Cameroon, West Africa, has been appointed Field Secretary of our Cameroon Baptist Mission. He has been acting Field Secretary in the absence of Rev. George W. Lang, who resigned from this office in April.

Brazil, South America. Approval was received from the General Council to begin our new work in Brazil. The Board of Missions appointed two couples, Rev. and Mrs. Herman Effa, Linton, N. D., and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Rabenhorst, Watertown, Wis., as missionaries to this field. The first year will be spent in language school. They plan to leave in August for South America.

NAB PASTORS' CONFERENCE,

August 10-14, 1966

The triennial Pastors' Conference to which all North American Baptist pastors are cordially invited will be held on the campus of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. August 10-14, 1966. The program committee has been busily engaged in preparing a stimulating and challenging program.

The Seminary is seeking to make the best possible arrangements for hosting this large conference. Numerous pastors will be housed in the Seminary dormitory, a large number in Sioux Falls College dormitories, some in private homes, and others will make their own lodging arrangements. Families will make their own reservations directly with the management of hotels and motels. Information in this regard has been mailed by the Ministers' Fellowship.

A new innovation will be the serving of meals in the beautiful and spacious Student Union of Sioux Falls College. These will be served at nominal rates. Rates for housing and meals have been announced in letters to ministers and church clerks.

No pastor can afford to miss this opportunity to meet with fellow laborers for spiritual enrichment, mental stimulation and delightful Christian fellowship. Please circle the dates of August 10-14, 1966 on your busy calendar immediately. We will look for you at the Seminary in August! (Frank Veninga, Seminary President).

Editorial

Our Fathers' God

Guest Editorial by Rev. B. C. Schreiber
Promotional Assistant

The Bible always takes a realistic view of human nature. Even though it speaks highly of many of the giants of faith such as Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David and many others, it also gives an accurate and often a detailed description of their sins and shortcomings. They were saints but they were not always saintly. They did great things for God, but they also, on occasion, did some very foolish things.

This is not only true of the outstanding patriarchs of Israel but also of the fathers in general. The Word of God does not apologize but simply states a fact when it reports that, "Our fathers have sinned . . . and we have borne their iniquity" (Lam. 5:7). "For the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us" (Dan. 9:16).

Passages from the Bible, such as these, make it possible to yield to the temptation to blame all our troubles on our fathers. It becomes an easy way to shake off the yoke of responsibility by simply blaming the former generation for the evils of this one.

But this is not all the Bible has to say about fathers. It also reminds us that, "Our fathers trusted in thee . . . and thou didst deliver them" (Psalm 22:4). The great and majestic song we often sing reminds us of the "faith of our fathers, living still." The minds of the Jewish people were often so absorbed with the iniquity of their fathers that it was only on special occasions that they mentioned the faith, hope and love which were also a part of their heritage. They should have thought more about their own failures rather than the failures of their fathers.

There are many who are able to think of the rich heritage which was left them by their fathers. The establishment of the country, home and family received a good foundation, because our fathers, while working in the present, also had visions of the future. They, too, were not perfect, but let us emulate their good virtues and not blame the entire evil in our generation on a few iniquities of our fathers.

If we are looking for perfection on Father's Day, let us look for it in the only one who is capable of its possession—our fathers' God. Nowhere in Scripture can we find an allusion of imperfection in God. Jesus came and gave us the most meaningful image of God when he spoke of him as his Father. We cannot, and should not try, to act as though we were God in the family, but we can act like fathers who have godly qualities and virtues. Never let it be said that you are "of your father, the devil," but let it be said that you are like your Father in heaven.

"HONOUR THY FATHER AND THY MOTHER . . ." Exodus 20:12).

"CHILDREN, OBEY YOUR PARENTS IN THE LORD: FOR THIS IS RIGHT" (Ephesians 6:1).

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Semi-monthly Publication of the
NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST
GENERAL CONFERENCE

7308 Madison Street
Forest Park, Illinois 60130

Martin L. Leuschner, D.D., Editor

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THE BAPTIST HERALD is a publication of the North American Baptist General Conference with headquarters at 7308 Madison St., Forest Park, Illinois. It also maintains an active membership in the Associated Church Press.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: \$3.50 a year to any address in the United States or Canada—\$3.00 a year for churches under the Club Plan or Every Family Subscription Plan—\$4.00 a year to foreign countries.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Three weeks notice required for change of address. When ordering a change, please furnish an address stencil impression from a recent issue if you can.

ADVERTISING RATES: \$4.00 per inch, single column, 2 1/4 inches wide.

ALL EDITORIAL correspondence is to be addressed to the Rev. Martin L. Leuschner, 7308 Madison St., Forest Park, Ill., 60130.

ALL BUSINESS correspondence is to be addressed to the Roger Williams Press, 7308 Madison Street, Forest Park, Illinois 60130.

Second-class postage paid at Newton, Kansas. Send change of address Form 3579 to the Roger Williams Press, 7308 Madison St., Forest Park, Illinois 60130.

(Printed in U.S.A.)

THE TWO institutions which should claim our greatest loyalty today are the family and the church. Both were created by God: the family first, and the church second.

There is an ever growing problem among Americans today toward their relationship to the church and the family. Church leaders over our nation are concerned about the growing lack of interest in both. Even though church attendance is at its highest in our history, there is evidence of a lack of depth understanding on what the church can and will do in the life of an individual.

In this area of the family, we find a growing problem of less and less time being spent in the home as a family. We find Americans feeling that they must go outside the home to satisfy their need for companionship. Unlike the days of their parents and grandparents Americans today do not form close knit family groups. Church leaders today recognize this as a growing problem that is very likely contributing to growing marital difficulties and to juvenile delinquency.

There is the need for considering the interest of the family in the life of the church. It is easy for conflicting interest to arise when one considers where first loyalty belongs: to the church or to the family.

Such questions as these often are pushed to the front: How does one decide when the loyalty to one's family and the loyalty to one's church are in conflict? How is loyalty to the church actually and truly given? Is it loyalty to an organization of the church? Is it faithful attendance at church meetings? Is it financial support? Is it loyalty to Christ's Spirit and teaching? Is it Christ-like concern and ministry to human need? Or is it all of these things?

To really answer these questions, we need (1) to understand the nature and mission of the church; and (2) to understand the nature and purpose of the family. After gaining answers to these questions we should be able to seek what relationships exist between the church and the home and find the real and best ways they can work together. We can then determine, without a doubt, where our loyalties lie in relation to Christ and our life in the family.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL PATTERN

We first must remove any misunderstandings that might exist about what the "church" really is. We too often speak of it in relationship to the building. We think of it as a place where people come together for worship services. Also, we confuse things further when we speak of attending "church meetings." Sometimes when meetings are held in the church we consider them as "church meetings," but when the same meetings are held in the home or some place other than the church, but for the same purpose, we do not consider them as "church meetings."



THE FAMILY and THE CHURCH

By William E. Boyd
of Nashville, Tennessee

We must never forget that the church has a building in which it meets for worship and study. The church has organized itself, believing that organization helps it to do its work better: but these buildings and these organizations are not the church. The building is a piece of property which the church has found helpful. An organization is a method of bringing together many persons to do a special task in a more effective way.

The church is the people, not the building nor the organization. The church is very special people—not just any people. These people are the people of God. They are people who have heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ and who have believed it. These people are the church whether they are gathered in a church building or scattered to their homes or the places where they work.

In the New Testament the church is referred to as the household of God (Eph. 2:19). Throughout the New Testament we find words to describe the relationship between God and the believer which come from family life. God is called Father. All who believe become sons, or children, and our confidence in God's love and care is based on a childlike trust as that to a father.

The real significance of our relationship to Christ and the church is put in its most dramatic setting as a result of these family comparisons. As a general rule, our greatest loyalties are within the family. Because of this, Jesus used family loyalty as the setting for emphasizing a new and higher loyalty. Jesus refers to a new family of God which we may enter in Mark 3:31-35. This new family claims loyalty over all others. We are called to love him more than we love father, mother, wife or children. In fact even more than we love ourselves. He says our loyalty to him will cause breakdowns in our own homes and will pit family members against each other.

What do these truths about the church mean to the family? They mean that the life and work of the family should get its form, function, meaning and direction from the will of God as revealed in the Bible.

The form of the family is to be a permanent monogamous relationship between husband and wife based on loyal love like Christ has for the church. The functions of this relationship are companionship, protection and the nurture of children.

The Christian family finds its real significance in bringing its members to maturity in Christ. The families of mankind are concerned to rear their children to adulthood, to prepare them for adult responsibility. The Christian family is concerned for this also, but more. It is concerned that the emerging adult know Christ, be committed to him and his way.

The nature of the relationship between the church and the Christian home may be understood best in this connection: a family of believers is a small unit of the church's life set out in the community. Because they

are Christian, their life and work as a family represents the life and work of the church. The Christian home, then, is an instrument, an arm or an outpost of carrying out the mission of the church in the world. It is not only the means, of course, but its influence on persons is so significant the church cannot afford to ignore it or neglect it. Even though the church and the home are separate institutions, we must realize that when the home is Christian its life and work are actually part of the life and work of the church. This is true because Christians, who make up this home, are a part of the church and are to carry out the mission of the church wherever they are. When we speak of church-home cooperation we have in mind that special relationship that exists between the church and the Christian family.

THE PATRIARCHAL PATTERN

In the past, the patriarchal pattern of family life was the dominant pattern as far back as the history of man can be traced. The father was the unquestioned ruler of the household and his word was the law. The place and the responsibility of everyone in the family was determined by the father. Abraham and his family were an example of this. Such a fact was also true in the story of the prodigal son in the New Testament, although in this case the father was more concerned with the problems of his children and willing to help them solve them. Still, he ruled the family.

During the early years of the church it met in homes. Such events as the Last Supper; the preparation of the disciples for Pentecost; the coming of the Holy Spirit; the launching of the missionary enterprise from Antioch and the organizing of new churches on the mission field took place in the homes of people who were followers of Christ.

In light of these things it seems reasonable to assume that God intended the family to be the primary training base for the children. The most significant learning in life grows out of the kind of relationships we have with other people. The home is the scene of the deepest and most intimate relationships we ever know. Then, too, the nature and quality of family relationships have significant influence on one's understanding of God and kinship to God. The home can erect barriers between the child and God, making it extremely difficult for a child to believe; or the home can be a bridge between a child and God so that faith becomes almost as natural as breathing.

THE DEMOCRATIC PATTERN

Today, in direct opposition to the past, family life is less patriarchal and more democratic. In the past, women and children have been completely dependent upon the man for protection and provision. Today's industry, business, commerce and the rise of the

cities have so changed the way we live that it is difficult for some even to recognize the past. Women have taken their place alongside men as breadwinners in the factory and business world. They often become the top money earner in a family. The care of children is being moved from the mother in the home to nurseries, kindergartens, schools and other outside agencies. Some homes, due to different working hours, have become nothing but places to eat, sleep and keep one's possessions. In this kind of society family breakdown is much easier than in an earlier society.

All of this means that, homes in our day, are subject to divisive forces from within and from without that were not known in past years. Families today more than ever need the steady guiding hand of faith proclaimed by the church. The church must proclaim that God ordained the family, that the husband and wife relationship has spiritual significance, that parenthood is more than giving birth to children and providing their food and clothing. Though the family needs the church, it is just as true that the church needs the family. The family is the chief arena where the Christian life is taught and lived. If there is a breakdown in the family, the church suffers its most crippling impairment.

The home does have opportunities that church organizations do not have. In the home there is time, there are experiences, and there are relationships that can be used in the interest of all the church does—opportunities for worship, for evangelism, for education, for ministry. All of these can help or hinder the cause of Christ.

If cooperation between church and home is needed to actually exist, the church must take the initiative. This initiative must be based on understanding: understanding the way of life today, understanding the kinds of pressures that families confront that tend to tear them apart. The church must plan its program to help the family be what God wants it to be.

Someone has said that it probably takes more endurance, more patience, more intelligence, more healthy emotion to raise a happy human being than to be an atomic physicist, a politician or a psychiatrist. Parents who take their parental responsibility seriously, and most of them do, will probably agree.

If parents are going to do the job which is theirs to do in the home they need help. It follows then that if the church is going to do the job of Christian training and provide the desired nurture, its most pressing assignment is to train parents to do a better job at home.

This job is to provide a Christian home for a Christian family.

(Reprinted by permission from *The Watchman-Examiner*, April 21, 1966).

[William E. Boyd is editor, *Family Life Materials*, for the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, Tenn.]

PRaise THE LORD OF THE HARVEST!

(Continued from page 13)

has accepted a position as assistant to the pastor of her home church where she has served as Sunday school teacher and department superintendent during her student days. Since the church is small, it could not guarantee her full support, but she was willing to trust the Lord to provide her needs. Praise the Lord for such a fine spirit! Sano San is from the Evangelical Free Church.

MISS MURAI

Miss Murai is the only one of the graduates who comes from a Christian home. Unlike the others she did not face opposition from her family in coming to the Seminary but came with their blessing and support, both moral and financial. Perhaps because she has been somewhat sheltered and has not yet faced the same tests and storms, her faith and personal discipline have not developed as much as in the others. However, the influence and love of Christian parents have left their impress on her warm hearted, pleasing personality. As graduation approached and she wondered what her future work would be, many urged her to accept a secular job to get acquainted with the rough and tumble world around her. But she felt the Lord had called her to full time Christian service. Eventually a position was opened to her in the Mennonite Brethren Conference as a worker in preparing educational materials for the Sunday schools.

Those of you who have been praying that the Lord of the Harvest would thrust forth laborers into the harvest field may now give thanks that he has heard this prayer and sent out four sincere, young people whose only aim is to serve their Master well and to bring precious souls to the Savior.

BIBLE NEWS

(Continued from page 9)

What a contrast with the price and availability of Scriptures today!

These facts were given by Prof. William Barclay in the course of a lecture at London Bible House on April 27, given in recognition of the fact that his book *The Daily Study Bible* has sold one million copies.

WORLD SCRIPTURE CIRCULATION (UBS). The United Bible Society office reports that the final figure of circulation in 1965 is 76.9 million Scriptures (4.5 million Bibles, 4.2 million New Testaments, 31.8 million Portions, 36.4 million Selections).

GEORGE, IOWA

(Continued from page 22)

daughter, Jean; Kaylene Buss, Jolene Ackerman, Glenda Ackerman, and Kayleen Harms. Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised. (Julia Oltmann, Reporter).

EVANGELISM is one of the keys to spiritual health. I like to call it the fizz of the pepsi cola in the Christian life. If you are involved in evangelism, the Christian life sparkles and has verve. If you are not involved in evangelism, you find very often that the Christian life is stale and vapid and tasteless. When a church congregation is not involved with people on the frontiers, they turn in on themselves and start to "pick fleas" out of each others hair. But when people are turned to the world around them, there is a whole new atmosphere.

Prayer, for instance, is transformed when we are locked in the spiritual struggle for the souls of men. Have you ever come away from a prayer meeting feeling worse than when you went because it was so depressing and so dead? You could predict who was going to say what, when and in what tone of voice and the exact vocabulary with the certainty of a railroad timetable. You knew it because you had heard it so many times before. Such a group has lost the vision for evangelism.

On the other hand, if you have been in a prayer meeting where people are

involved in attempting to win people for the Lord Jesus Christ, you will find a meeting where there is vibrancy and almost an electric atmosphere in the air.

Bible study is transformed, too. Are you having a problem with Bible study being academic? Become involved in evangelism and your whole study of the Word of God will take on new color.

Faith becomes revolutionized as we become involved in evangelism. To see a person transformed by the Holy Spirit in front of our eyes does more to lift our faith index and make us convinced supernaturalists than fifty lectures on the subject. In fact, it is amazing how those who are involved on the frontier seeing people changed by the power of the gospel do not have all these problems about the church's relevancy today. They are seeing God at work. I think it is not without deep significance that Bishop John Robinson in his celebrated book, *Honest to God*, says very frankly and candidly, "I speak as a once born man, not a twice born man." If one has never been born twice, obviously the message is irrelevant.

Evangelism then is one of the keys

to spiritual health.

FISHERS OF MEN

There are a number of figures of speech in the New Testament that describe us in our role as evangelists and as witnesses. One is in Mark 1:17. Simon and Andrew were walking by the Sea of Galilee. Our Lord came along and said to them, "Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men." That little word "become," by the way, is a great encouragement to me, because it indicates the possibility of becoming something that I may not be at the moment.

One of the first lessons we learn from this figure of speech, "fishers of men," is the painfully obvious lesson in retrospect that in order to catch fish we must go where fish are.

We are all rather amused by simple Simon, who sets up a barrel, drops in his little line and is very saddened because he doesn't catch any fish. And we think, "How stupid can you be? Fish don't come and jump in barrels: you have to go where the fish are."

But what do we do in evangelism? We set up barrels and we invite the fish to come jump in, and we are very sad when they bypass us by the droves. As Harold Wildish said one time, "The Holy Spirit cannot save saints or seats. There have to be some non-Christians."

Sometimes in our communication of the gospel we are speaking to ourselves and nobody else. The gospel has not lost its power because there is no response; it is simply that there are few or none there to respond. There is a place for evangelistic meetings to which we invite people, of course, but basically the method of evangelism that our Lord taught was to go where people are.

SEPARATION OR ISOLATION?

Now this has several implications. One is that we must realize that separation from the world is not the same thing as isolation from the world. I believe that in our times many well-meaning and devoted people have become victims of what can only, in terms of its effect, be a heresy, and that is that the index of spirituality is the extent to which you can have absolutely nothing to do with non-Christian people.

I have had people come up to me with pride in their voices to tell me, waiting to be congratulated, that they had not one single non-Christian friend. I have had to shake my head in amazement as to how they could have missed the plain teaching of the New Testament. Separation from the world is very clearly taught and it is the

lack of the practice of this that has sapped our spiritual strength. But we are to be separated to Christ. Separation is not to be isolated from the very people to whom we have been sent.

This was a problem in our Lord's time. The Pharisees said of Jesus, "Why does this man eat and drink with publicans and sinners?" Our Lord replied, "Don't you understand, those that are well do not need a doctor, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:27-32). In his great high priestly prayer Jesus said, "I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world but that thou shouldst keep them from the evil one" (John 17:15). So this is not a new problem, but it is a devastating problem unless we see through it.

If you wanted to prevent the spread of measles, what would you do with a person who had measles? You'd put him in an isolation ward in a hospital with everybody else who had measles. If you were the enemy of men's souls and wanted to keep the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ from spreading, what device would you use? Wouldn't you try to persuade Christians that the essence of spirituality would be to have nothing to do with those who are around them and to spend all their time with each other? You would have won the battle without firing a shot.

We must go where fish are if we are to catch fish.

CURTAIN CLANGS DOWN

There is a second implication. Sometimes the non-Christian in all good faith and generosity says, "Come with us to do such and such," or "Here, have such and such." And we respond almost instinctively, "No thanks, I don't do such and such. I am a Christian." Bang, you can hear the iron curtain clang down. Some think to themselves, "My, I had a tremendous opportunity to witness." But in my opinion we have done two very serious things. One, we have condemned the person out of hand as a pagan in a way that he doesn't really understand. Secondly, we have garbled the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ because we have suggested that inherent in being a Christian is not doing whatever it happened to be at the moment he asked us to do. There are thousands of non-Christians who do not do any of these things. Yet that does not make them Christians. The point is, we have not really gotten to them on the crucial issue.

I remember talking to a football player one time in a university. He said, "Boy, I had a tremendous opportunity to witness to these guys

out in California this weekend."

I said, "Yeah, what did you tell them?"

"Well, they were going on this binge and doing this, that and the other thing and I was able to tell them I did not do any of these things."

I said, "That's good, Jim, I am glad you didn't get involved." But I said, "Let me ask you a question. What did they learn about Christ?"

"Oh," he said, "we never talked about him."

SYMPTOMS OR DISEASE?

We haven't communicated the gospel until we get to the basic issue. The tragedy is, very often we are treating symptoms rather than the basic disease. The non-Christian's basic problem is that he does not know the Savior. Until we get him to know the Savior it is useless to try to reform these other things. And if we insist that he conform to our behavior pattern before we talk to him, we are going to have a very small audience.

With non-Christians we must look for that which we can honestly commend, and if we are alert, we can find it. And when a person invites us to do something, you might say, "No thanks, but let me know when you are going to do such and such." Immediately make an alternative suggestion so that you do not seem to reject him or his friendship. We do not need to be apologetic about it. If you invite a non-Christian to play chess and he is not interested in chess, he does not hem and haw around about it and say, "Well, no thanks, I don't play chess. I am a non-Christian." He just says, "No thanks, chess leaves me cold, but when you are going to play Ping Pong, let me know."

THROW OUT THE NET

Another profound lesson that comes to us from this figure of speech, "fishers of men," is that in order to catch fish we must throw out the net. Basically, it is a matter of introducing into a conversation, in a natural way, some spiritual aspect or line of thought to see how the person responds.

Some of us go into a "clerical clutch" when we get to the gospel. We tighten up and we can see people backing away, because as we clutch, they clutch. If we relax, they relax. We must ask God for wisdom to talk as naturally about the Lord Jesus Christ as we do about other things.

There is one series of questions that I have found particularly useful, though there is no "formula," of course. These questions are only springboards that may help you get to the crucial subject.

The first question can be asked aft-

er there is a reference in the conversation to anything even vaguely religious (this happens all the time if people read the newspapers; there is some religious allusion in the press almost every day). Say to a person very casually and in the same tone of voice that you talk about the weather or sports or your children, "By the way, are you interested in spiritual things?"

Now that is a very simple planned question and it draws just one of two answers. One is "Yes." The other is "No." If the person says "Yes," two questions can follow, and knowing what you are going to say next can eliminate ninety per cent of your nervousness. A lot of us may know how to make the first break, but then we don't know what to do next, and when the person responds we fumble. An hour later we think of the perfect retort, but by that time it is too late.

The second question is, "What do you think a real Christian is?"

The average person will define a real Christian as one who reads the Bible, or prays, or goes to church, or gives money, etc., etc. Then you say, "Well, you know, that is what a real Christian does, but that is not what a real Christian is." Then go on to describe to him that a real Christian is one who is personally related to the Lord Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and explain a little bit of what this means.

If you discover there is real interest, the third question is, "Would you like to become a real Christian now?"

You will be amazed at the number of people who are just waiting to be asked. They are in a sort of spiritual fog. They would give anything to have certainty of forgiveness of sin and eternal life, but nobody has ever told them how. Many students have said that to me, "This is the first time anybody has ever told me how."

NOT INTERESTED!

Now suppose the person is *not* interested. Drop it. You do not have to force the gospel on people who are not interested. You cannot do the Holy Spirit's work for him.

We also have an opening when people share their problems and frustrations with us. We can say, if it has been true of us, "You know, Mary or John, I know exactly how you feel. That used to be a problem for me until I had an experience that completely changed my life. Would you like me to tell you about it?" And they will always say yes.

Maybe this particular problem was not yours and you could not honestly say, "This used to be my problem."

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NO NIBBLES?

GO WHERE THE FISH ARE!

By Paul Little

God's Word for a New Age

The 150th Anniversary of the American Bible Society

THREE DAYS of observances began Wednesday, May 11, which marked the 150th anniversary of the founding of the American Bible Society. Wednesday marked the beginning of "The Year of the Bible" in tens of thousands of churches honoring the society's sesquicentennial.

Governors of all 50 states have urged similar observances in their respective states, and the U. S. Senate has passed a resolution calling upon President Johnson to proclaim 1966 "The Year of the Bible." The first service of commemoration took place at 2 P.M. Wednesday at City Hall where the society's organization was completed on May 11, 1816, when the then Mayor Jacob Radcliffe presided at the first meeting. United States Senator Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island made the principal address. Other participants included Mayor John V. Lindsay, the Rev. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale and H. W. Fenimore Cooper, M.D., a descendant of James Fenimore Cooper, a founder of the society and author of *The Deerslayer* and *Leather Stocking Tales*. Dr. Frank H. Woyke was invited to represent our NAB General Conference at this important event.

Other founders were represented by descendants, many of them in early 19th century costumes. Among the founders represented by descendants were Elias Boudinot, past president of the Continental Congress and first society president; John Jay, first chief

justice of the U. S. Supreme Court and second society president; and DeWitt Clinton, former mayor and governor of New York.

On Thursday, at 3 P.M., the society's 150th annual meeting took place in Philharmonic Hall at the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. The Rev. Dr. Billy Graham gave the principal address.

It was reported that to meet the needs of non-English speaking people in the United States, the American Bible Society distributed Scriptures in 220 languages and dialects during 1965. World distribution was in 417 languages and dialects in 150 countries.

Portions of the Scriptures appeared for the first time in 18 additional languages during the past year. This brought the total to 1,250 languages and dialects—of the nearly 2,500 spoken in the world—in which at least one complete book of the Bible has now been published. A whole Bible has now been published in 237 languages, a whole Testament in 297, and at least one book of the Bible in an additional 716.

Scripture distribution by the society soared to record heights during the year, with almost 26,000,000 Bibles, Testaments, portions and selections distributed in this country and over 28,000,000 overseas. The total of over 54,000,000 was a substantial step forward toward the society's goal of 76,000,000 copies of Scripture for the year

1966.

During the year, the 750 million mark was passed. This represented 150 years of effort, but the society hopes to distribute as much again within the next 10 years, the meeting was told.

Other highlights from the report include:

*The society hopes to inspire 10 million persons to become regular readers of the Bible during its anniversary year.

*Another goal is to see to it that all public libraries and public school libraries have copies of the Bible.

*Approximately 80,000 students from foreign countries were given Scriptures in their own languages.

*More than 600 schools were given copies of the "Sermon on the Mount" in English and Russian for their students of Russian.

*More than 250 college libraries have scheduled exhibits of Scriptures to honor the society on its anniversary.

*More than 745,000 copies of Scripture were distributed to the armed forces during the year.

*About 30 per cent of the 400,000 blind persons in the country received Braille books, Talking Bible Records and tape recordings of the Bible from the society. In all, 122,475 such Scripture portions were distributed to the blind.

*In South Vietnam, teams in Bibles distribute Scriptures to refugees who want them. "The war has created within these people a sense of need to find out about the message of the Bible," the report stated.

*In India, Bible distribution increased by 30 per cent. Three thousand copies of the first Bible published in Naga Ao, a language spoken in India, were sold in two hours.

*The society now offers Scriptures in the Revised Standard Version, American Standard Version, New English Bible, J. B. Phillips' translation, and Today's English Version, as well as the King James Version.

*The largest overseas distribution by the society was in Latin America with 14,814,184 copies of Scriptures last year. Asia was second with 9,517,012; Africa, third, with 2,739,378, and Europe, fourth, with 1,017,552.

*In Mexico, the Epistle to the Galatians was produced for the 90,000 persons who speak the Mezquital dialect of Otomi. There are 3,000 Christians among them.

The Most Rev. and Right Honorable F. Donald Coggan, archbishop of York and president of the United Bible Societies, pronounced the benediction. He and Dr. Graham lead a procession of society officers and visitors representing the various national Bible societies from Philharmonic Hall to the new Bible House at Broadway and 61st Street.

On Friday at 7 P.M., Archbishop Coggan was the principal speaker at an anniversary dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria. Mr. Oates presided.

"The history of the world in the next 50 years may well be decided by whether all the great wealth and charity of our nation is used on superstructure and decoration or if an adequate percentage is used on spiritual foundation." Dr. Robert T. Taylor, a General Secretary of the American Bible Society, made this prediction at the dinner. He further warned that if you "remove the influence of the Bible you remove the basic motivation for most of our acts of love and mercy." Calling the ABS "the most important single enterprise in our nation," Dr. Taylor said "the ABS program is so simple that it is scorned by some and neglected by many. It consists of selling millions of people a copy of the Holy Scriptures in the language they can read and at the price they can afford—usually less than half the cost."



Rev. Ewaldo Alves, ABS representative in Brazil, Dr. Frank H. Woyke, NAB executive secretary and Mr. S. H. Amisshah of Kenya at the American Bible Society's 150th Anniversary Celebration.

Three presentations highlighted the observances. Senator Pell presented to Mayor Lindsay the society's latest publication, a New Testament translated into easy-to-understand Spanish for those who use it as a second language, or who prefer a translation which is simpler than the conventional translations.

On Thursday, Mr. Oates presented a pulpit Bible to Dr. Graham.

On Friday, at the dinner, the society presented one of its most important achievements of recent years, a new edition of the Greek New Testament. This edition, in preparation for ten years, is the first Greek text ever to be edited by a committee. Dr. Bruce M. Metzger, professor of New Testament literature and exegesis at Princeton Theological Seminary and one of the editors, presented the Greek New Testament to Archbishop Iakovos, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church of North and South America.

A number of the North American Baptist General Conference people, who live in the area, attended these functions. They were: Rev. Alphonz Lam-

(Continued on page 24)

BIBLE news around the WORLD



NEW YORK (ABS). Publication of Today's English Version New Testament by the American Bible Society in 1966 is one of many ABS efforts to provide Scriptures in easy-to-read form for new readers.

NEW YORK (ABS). The proposal to observe 1966 as "The Year of the Bible" in connection with the 150th Anniversary of the American Bible Society has been endorsed to date by 50 governors.

NEW YORK (ABS). As part of its 150th Anniversary in 1966, the American Bible Society announces the forthcoming publication of The Greek New Testament in May. It was compiled from almost 1,000 Greek manuscripts and other ancient versions including Latin, Nubian, Armenian and others.

LATIN AMERICA (ABS). To help meet the push for literacy in Latin America, the American Bible Society is publishing the entire New Testament in the Spanish Version Popular during 1966.

NEW YORK (ABS). During 1965, the American Bible Society shipped 50 million Scriptures from its distribution center in Wayne, N. J., the equivalent of one million Scriptures per employee there.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (ABS). In observance of the 150th Anniversary of the American Bible Society, an exhibition of Scriptures, "The Many Faces of the Bible," will be held in the Rare Book Library of the Washington National Cathedral beginning April 17. Open to the public daily except Monday, the display will continue until October 9. Designed to show how the Bible came to America, its spread across this country and around the world as well as 20th century translating and publishing methods, the exhibit will be entirely Biblical. Whole Bibles, New Testaments and Portions will be displayed in about 100 languages representing every continent.

MADAGASCAR (UBS). The importance of the Bible for newly independent nations was emphasized by President Tsiranana of the Malagasy Republic when presented with copies of the Malagasy Bible recently in Tananarive. "There are still many Malagasy people who do not know the

Bible, which it would be good for them to know, that we might forsake idol worship throughout Madagascar," he commented. Expressing satisfaction that the Malagasy Bible had now been printed again in Madagascar itself after 130 years, and that the Malagasy Bible Society had recently been formed as an autonomous national Society, the President stated: "Now independence in all things is returning to us, whether it be concerning the Bible or the Church. That is an important fact."

RHODESIA (UBS). Rhodesian churches are responding to the Bible Society's request for help in its Scripture distribution program, hampered by petrol rationing. A number of churches are buying large quantities of Scriptures to distribute in their areas.

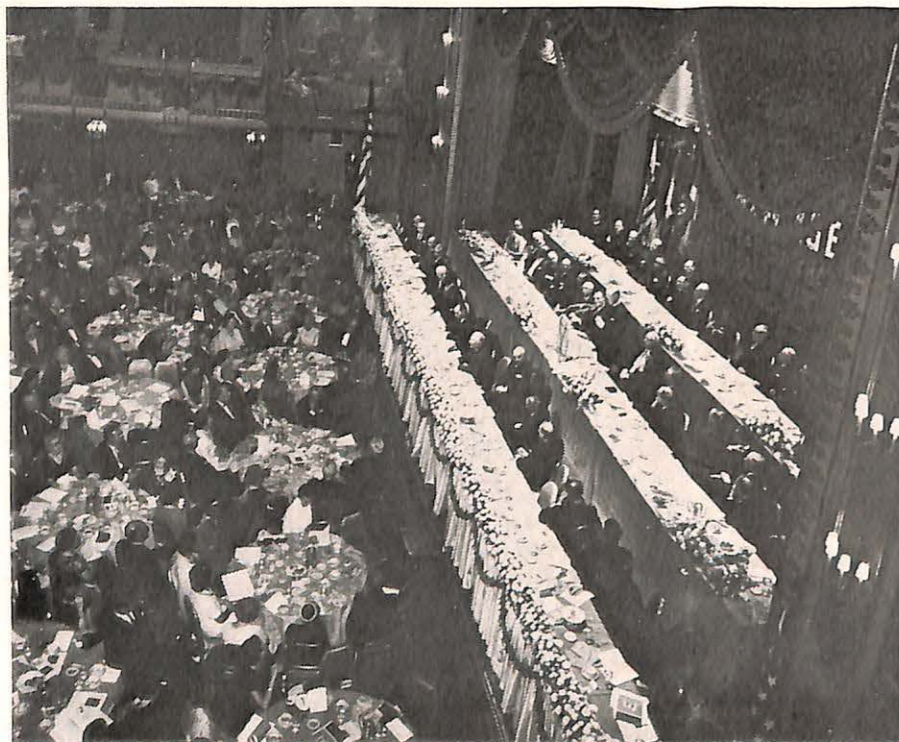
JAPAN (UBS). The Scriptures are Japan's non-fiction best seller, the Bible Societies report, and the Christian Church there is approaching the million mark in membership. The Japan Bible Society distributed four million Scriptures in the country last year.

TAIWAN (UBS). Over one hundred Christians in Taiwan volunteer to distribute the Scriptures throughout the country in their spare time. They travel on their motorcycles or in the Bible Van to outlying areas, and sell the Scriptures to whoever will buy. Whereas Bibles are mostly sold from bookshops to Christians or interested people, Scripture Portions and Selections which introduce the Bible to non-Christians are sold in large numbers among the ordinary people by these volunteers, by the Bible Society's eight full-time colporteurs, and by students who help in their vacation. Over 1,380,000 Scriptures were circulated in Taiwan in the last 12 months, most of the total being Portions of the Bible sold to non-Christians (there are some 300,000 Protestant Christians in Taiwan).

PRICE-FIXING OF BIBLES—A.D. 301 (UBS). The fee for scribes in the early days of the Christian era was calculated not by the number of lines (for handwriting varies in size) but by the number of stychoi. A stychos was 16 syllables, the average length of a line of Homeric verse. Each book would give at the end the number of stychoi—Matthew's Gospel is composed of 2,500 stychoi, the four Gospels of 11,400, and the complete New Testament of 18,302 stychoi.

An edict of the emperor Diocletian in 301 A.D. was the first attempt at price fixing. Everything was fixed, even the price of soap. Including the price of the proper copying of manuscripts. Scribes were to be paid 20-25 denarii per 100 stychoi—about £1 (\$2.80). Thus the cost of a properly scribed New Testament for early Christians was £183 (\$512.40); and the whole Bible would cost them about £1,000 (\$2,800.00) in addition to the cost of papyrus, between 4d and ½d (5 and 16c) for a sheet size 10 x 8 inches.

(Continued on page 5)



150th American Bible Society Anniversary Dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria with the Most Rev. F. Donald Coggan, Archbishop of York and President of the United Bible Societies, as speaker.

A Volunteer — Growth and Challenge

Four Testimonies of youth on the God's Volunteers Teams, 1965-1966

VOLUNTEER—WHY?

By Douglas Woyke, Team I of Minneapolis, Minn.

Young people today are called on to volunteer for a variety of duties which others wish to be done. The armed services are crying for volunteers to serve in defense of our country. College organizations call on many to help promote their programs. Churches enlist their members to volunteer their time and talent for the furtherance of the kingdom of God. Our North American Baptist General Conference sponsors a program called God's Volunteers for young people, 18-35, who wish to volunteer their Christian testimony in a special way for one year. Perhaps you have been wondering why young people would give up

they have a great influence on the unsaved. Sometimes this witness is more effective than an older person can give. When we see people coming to Christ under the conviction of the Holy Spirit, our entire life can never be the same. We have the opportunity to lead that soul to Christ, and witness the change brought about. I am thinking of one young man who had attended church only a few times before he received Christ. We saw the Holy Spirit work through our songs and testimonies so much that he wept and came to live a Christian life. What a tremendous experience! We are also privileged to see Christians dedicate their lives to a more perfect service.

I would also like to give a few words of advice to young people who are pos-

WHY BECOME A VOLUNTEER?

By Bernice Werk, Team I of Melville, Sask.

HAVE YOU ever had to make an important decision in your life? Before entering my sophomore year in high school, it was necessary that I have eye surgery. When I asked my father, "What shall I do?" he said, "The decision is up to you." I had to make the decision regarding my surgery; no one else could make it for me. And so too, as we continue through life, we have to make decisions each day regarding our physical and spiritual lives.

Last May, I received word that I was accepted into God's Volunteers. I, too, had to make the final decision as to whether I would let my name stand or not. I felt that the Lord was calling me into some type of full time service for him. I said I would be willing to go; yet when the actual time came to say, "Yes, I will go"; it was much easier to say, "No." There was one thing in my life that I was unwilling to completely yield to Christ. That was my employment; my main interest was earthly treasures. It is strange how money can come first in a person's life, even before God. Yes, money will buy a bed but not sleep, books but not brains, food but not an appetite, a house but not a home, medicine but not health, luxuries but not culture, amusements but not happiness, a church pew but not heaven. God has given us the free gift of salvation, if we are willing to accept it. I am so thankful that the Lord gave me the strength to say "Yes" to God and to give up this idol in my life. I cannot express in words how thrilled I am that he helped me in this important decision, how complete the joy I received in full surrender and also the great joy I have received in sharing what Jesus Christ means to me personally.

I would like to share a few physical aspects at this time. The first trial came when I was trying to pack clothes for two seasons into two suitcases. After repacking four times everything went in! There was the excitement of crossing the border into the USA for the first time. Then came my first view of the North American Baptist Seminary and the opportunity to enter the doors to meet the other members. There were many questions in my mind, "What do they look like? Are they friendly, or as afraid as I am?" It did not take long to become acquainted once classes began.

In our traveling it was very interesting to see different states, scenery and also observe the customs of the various people. It was thrilling to enjoy the balmy breezes of the south

instead of being in the frigid, freezing temperatures of the north, doing office work which I was presently very tired of. Even in this aspect, Volunteer service has been valuable; in that after May I will be ready to return to some type of employment.

The one month of training that we received at the seminary itself was worth it all, for it mainly strengthened my spiritual life and imprinted upon my mind the awesome fact that God does have a purpose for my life. I have found one of the main purposes distinctly revealed this year, and that is to be willing to tell others of God's love and his concern for man that all might receive the free gift of salvation. The greatest joy that one can experience here on earth is that of leading another individual to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. This has been my joy this year. With God's grace and help, I want to continue to be a witness for him wherever he may lead in the coming years.

Another aspect that will not be forgotten is the visitation work where we as individuals had to be concerned with and interested in the calls made. Some days it really took God's grace to listen to someone's problems, but we are sent to give encouragement in Jesus Christ. It is amazing how the Lord can speak through us, for in our own strength many of these words would not have been spoken.

A verse that has meant much to me is found in John 15:16: "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you and appointed you that you should go and bring forth fruit that will remain." I am so thankful that the Lord chose me to experience many wonderful things this year and for the spiritual growth that I have attained. Even if we have not reaped the harvest in all fields, we have sown the seed. Perhaps it will be another team's joy to reap the harvest.

My prayer for future teams is the prayer of Paul, as he writes to the Colossians: "This is what I have asked of God for you: that you will be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love, and that you will have the rich experience of knowing Christ with real certainty and clear understanding."

Is God calling you into some type of full time service? Are you willing to say "Yes" to his call? The heavenly Father, too, is saying, "The decision is up to you."

TO KNOW HIM

By Don Ziemer, Team II of Hutchinson, Minnesota

"TO KNOW HIM, and to Make Him Known," is the motto of God's Volunteers. This past year has been filled with many wonderful experiences. This year I have become better acquainted with my Lord, and I have also had many opportunities to tell others about him.

The most profitable experience for me, in the Volunteer work, was our

visitation program. Through this great work I could see the importance of visitation on the part of the church as well as the individual Christian. Acts 1:8 gives us Christ's command, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Unless you really experience something you cannot be a witness. However, we did see and experience Christ working through us in our many calls and contacts. Each day we prayed for guidance, for words, and for opportunities to speak, as we went calling. I had many experiences in this calling program, some good and some not so good. However, in man's sight, it is difficult to say whether the visits made were really profitable or not. Only time will tell. Sometimes I was encouraged after visiting people, and other times discouraged. However in I Thess. 5:18 it says, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the

as a team sang together. Truly my God has been great and wonderful to me, and I am thankful for the opportunity I had as a Volunteer to serve him. "Oh Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy power throughout the universe displayed, then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee; How great Thou art, How great Thou art!"

SOULS FOR CHRIST

By Shirley Bertram, Team II of Parma, Ohio

"Souls for Jesus, Is our battlecry, Souls for Jesus, We'll fight until we die,

We never will give in, while souls are lost in sin;

Souls for Jesus, Is our battlecry."

This has been our theme chorus this year and expresses what we have been trying to do during our nine months of traveling throughout our denomina-



God's Volunteers Team I. (Left to right) Douglas Woyke, Carolyn Brown, Sharon Schalfmann, Rev. Edgar Klatt, Erica Loewer, Bernice Werk, Wenzel Hanik.

several thousand dollars, a year of education, or even marriage to serve in this program. Having just completed a year in God's Volunteers, I would like to give you a few reasons why a young person would do this.

I believe young people have a keen awareness of the need for Christ in our denomination's efforts at the local church levels. Our churches have great opportunities to reach non-Christians with the Gospel, and God's Volunteers approaches this effort in a special way. The privilege of carrying Jesus Christ from door to door is wonderful. The opportunity to sing and give testimony in a mass evangelistic service is very humbling, realizing that God is using even us as humans for that task. I know that every Christian would appreciate that experience.

Christian young people realize that

sibly thinking of applying for God's Volunteers. Make sure that God has called you to apply. If you are thinking of special service for Christ as your lifetime work, you will find a wonderful opportunity in God's Volunteers to live the practical Christian life. You will gain valuable experience in living with and witnessing to people who need Christ. Do not think that God's Volunteers will automatically make you a vibrant Christian; this must be done right now. There will be personality clashes on every team, but God can and will use everything to his glory.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to every North American Baptist for sponsoring this program. You will someday know how much this has meant to many young people during the last ten years.



God's Volunteers Team II. (Left to right) Marlene Bender, Nancy Green, Donald Ziemer, Rev. Connie Salios, Wally Fus, Ingard Tiede, Shirley Bertram.

will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

I also enjoyed traveling this year with the Volunteers. We as a team traveled over 25,000 miles and saw the many wonders of God's creation. In each of the places we stayed, we felt welcomed with the friendliness of the homes and churches. Many people opened their hearts and homes to us, and we shared wonderful fellowship together.

This year with the Volunteers will be one I will never forget. It has given me so many new experiences, joys, and opportunities of travel and meeting many wonderful people throughout our denomination. I also enjoyed the many challenging messages from God's Word given by our director, Rev. Connie Salios. But most of all, when I think back of this past year, I will remember the many wonderful songs we

tional churches. Having the opportunity to deal with souls for Christ and eternity has thrilled me more than anything else this year.

I feel it would be impossible for a child of God to travel with five other Christian young people and an evangelist, study God's Word and pray daily, and after nine months not be an entirely different person. My heart has been challenged and thrilled with the gorgeous sights we have seen this year, the many wonderful and dedicated people we have met throughout our denomination, and the many thought provoking sermons we have heard from Rev. Salios. I have found joy in singing the many beautiful songs and hymns throughout our programs in which God has been given all the praise and glory.

Before entering the Volunteers, the
(Continued on page 20)

Better Leadership Education in Your Church

We often fail our new leaders and workers in the church by not informing them of the responsibilities and duties of the task for which they have been enlisted and by not providing them with education for their task.

By Mrs. John Binder, Westchester, Illinois

VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP presents a primary problem and a primary opportunity in the church. It is difficult to develop enough good lay leadership to accomplish the work of the church, but it is the main way in which Christian education takes place in the home and the church.

The work of the church is not as simple as most jobs. One must be concerned with motives and behavior and a number of other intangibles besides communicating the content of the Gospel. We often fail our new leaders and workers in the church by not informing them of the responsibilities and duties of the task for which they have been enlisted and by not providing them with education for their task. We fail to equip each volunteer lay worker to do the particular job the church has asked him to do.

It is not enough to expose workers to new ideas and methods, but one must help the workers feel these ideas are important enough for them to understand and to use them. A leadership education program must include Bible study, worship, prayer, and better ways and methods of administration and teaching under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We, as Baptists believing in the priesthood of all believers, are responsible for understanding the faith we possess and for helping others to find and mature in their faith in Jesus Christ.

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Whose responsibility is it to build

the kind of church program to lay a foundation for service—for development of volunteer leaders? This is one task of the Board of Christian Education in your church. A Chairman of Leadership Education should be elected by the church to the Board or else be appointed by the Board. He is to chair the Leadership Education Committee which every church NEEDS, no matter what size the church may be. Without a committee, the leadership education program in the church is as strong or as weak as the Chairman of Leadership Education. In a small church, the composition of the Leadership Education Committee would be the Chairman of Leadership Education, the pastor, the General Sunday School Superintendent, and one other person. In a larger church the four basic members of the committee would be the chairman; one representative from each age group: children, youth, and adult; additional members would be the church librarian and the Chairman of Camp and Conference Promotion, as well as the following ex officio members: the pastor, Director of Christian Education, the General Sunday School Superintendent and the Chairman of the Board of Christian Education.

The task of the committee requires an awareness of the leadership education needs of the church. Many people have no idea what is required in the jobs for which they volunteered. Therefore, a written description of each position filled by a volunteer in the church is needed; one that includes the duties,

responsibilities and tenure of office. Each potential worker needs to be approached personally (not by phone) for the specific task you have in mind. The development and administration of a long range program of recruitment and education based on its own church needs is an important task of this committee. This involves keeping an up to date card file on church members who have taken or taught leadership education courses, as well as information about potential volunteer workers (their background, education, previous experience, interests, and abilities). This committee needs to find and enlist the best workers available within their church and with this the development of the commitment, attitudes, and skills necessary in effective Christian service.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION

There are many ways to develop the present and potential leaders and workers. You can provide opportunities for education through

- a.) Leadership Education Courses sponsored by your local church during the Sunday School Hour, Sunday evening before the worship service, or three or four consecutive evenings of concentrated effort;
- b.) The promotion of the reading of books and magazines in the field of Christian education as well as the development of a good Christian education section in your church library;
- c.) Supervision of those in service by an experienced leader who observes, demonstrates, counsels and suggests improvements;
- d.) Coaching by an experienced person to aid a worker with a specific problem, such as planning a lesson, using various methods, visitation, discipline;
- e.) An apprenticeship for prospective teachers involving observing, assisting, and taking on responsibilities little by little until full responsibility for a class is taken;
- f.) Providing for assistant officers, such as superintendents, appointed by the Board of Christian Education so that in time they can take over the full position;
- g.) Appointing persons as assistants in younger departments and Vacation Bible School as helpers;
- h.) Encouraging workers to observe good teachers in a public school system or teachers and officers in another church with an excellent program;
- i.) Electing young adults to the various boards and committees within the church so they will know how to han-

(Continued on page 24)

APRIL 2, 1966, was a red letter day for four of the students of the Osaka Biblical Seminary. It was graduation day! Two young men, having completed four years of study, and two young women, having completed three years of study, were going forth from the place of training into the harvest field to gather in the precious grain. How their faces beamed as they stepped forward one by one to receive their diplomas. Doubtless, like most graduates, they had mixed feelings of nostalgia for the school and friends they were about to leave and perhaps a bit of fear regarding the unknown path ahead. But at the same time there was joy and gratitude for the Lord's faithful provision and guidance during the years of preparation, and now they were looking forward with great anticipation and trust in the Lord, as they were about to take up their new responsibilities.

MR. NAKAMURA

Mr. Nakamura began to attend Sunday school when he was in junior high, and with simple, child-like faith accepted Christ as Savior. Although no one else in the family was a Christian and though he was sometimes ridiculed by members of the family, he continued to follow the Lord until he was led to the Seminary. His father is a school teacher. He had hoped



Osaka Biblical Seminary graduates, April, 1966, (left to right) Miss Sano, Miss Murai, Mr. Kitada, and Mr. Nakamura.

that his son would go on to university and bring honor to the family. The family looked to him, as the eldest son, to assist the family financially, too. This he was unable to do, except in token fashion, in order to continue his studies as well. This was a severe test and burden for him all through school. As he continued to witness to his family by word and life, eventually his mother came to profess Christ as Savior, and a sister who was once a communist has also become interested in Christianity. He has been an excellent student with a well rounded per-

MR. KITADA

Mr. Kitada was not as fortunate, humanly speaking, as Mr. Nakamura. As a child he had an unhappy home life. As a result he ran away from home while still very young. He supported himself by working in a lumbering district of Japan. Life was hard and discouraging for the lonely boy. He finally gave up trying to make his way in life and sought to end it by hanging himself in a lonely little shed in the mountains. He was discovered just in time so that his life was spared. He did not have the opportuni-



Osaka Biblical Seminary students and faculty, April, 1966, with our missionaries Mr. Moore and Miss Miller (2nd and 3rd left, front row).

sonality and a rich bass voice, which was used of the Lord in the Seminary male quartet. His humble, sincere faith has already blessed many, as he has served in Mennonite Brethren churches as a student. Now he will be working with a missionary in a Mennonite Brethren church in a pastoral position.

ty for education as most young people in Japan do. In fact when the practice for graduation at the Osaka Biblical Seminary was held, one of the students had to show him how to bow properly in receiving the diploma, because he had never before received one. Although he lacked in education and refinement, he has a friendly out-going personality which wins many friends for him very quickly. His child-like faith and sincerity gave a special quality of genuineness to his testimony and message whenever he speaks. The graduates chose him to be their representative in expressing their appreciation to the Lord and to the Seminary for the training they had received. Probably no one else was as sincerely grateful as he. He has been called to be the pastor of a Bible Church, but he hopes eventually to establish a Christian kindergarten for which he and his wife have a special burden.

MISS SANO

Miss Sano came to know the Lord through the testimony of a Christian doctor when she lay at death's door in a hospital. All hope of life was gone, but God was pleased to restore her to health. In time she was led to come to the Seminary. At first she felt no clear-cut call to the Christian ministry, but gradually assurance was given that the Lord wanted her in full time service. As her faith grew, her physical strength also increased until one would never know that she had been so close to death. She is a diligent and capable student who promises to be a valuable worker. She

(Continued on page 5)

PRAISE THE LORD OF THE HARVEST!

By Miss Florence Miller, Missionary Teacher, Osaka Biblical Seminary, Japan



"Top Twenty-Five" in Denominational Giving

North American Baptist churches that were highest in total church contributions and in per capita giving during the 1965-1966 fiscal year.

DENOMINATIONAL MISSION GIVING

1. Lorraine, Kan.—First	\$29,958.03
2. Grosse Point Woods, Mich.— Grosse Pointe	29,483.08
3. Benton Harbor, Mich.— Napier Parkview	28,245.20
4. Lodi, Calif.—First	27,550.41
5. Forest Park, Ill.—Forest Park	24,894.53
6. Minneapolis, Minn.—Faith	21,280.95
7. Portland, Ore.—Trinity	20,420.78
8. Winnipeg, Man.—McDermot	17,579.67
9. East Detroit, Mich.—Ridgemont	17,025.72
10. Burlington, Iowa—Oak Street	15,614.69
11. Parma Heights, Ohio— Parma Heights	15,613.96
12. Kankakee, Ill.—Immanuel	15,590.94
13. Vancouver, B. C.—Ebenezer	14,950.57
14. Anaheim, Calif.—Bethel	14,434.88
15. Chicago, Ill.—Foster Avenue	14,066.26
16. Detroit, Mich.—Ebenezer	13,771.63
17. Portland, Ore.—Bethany	10,912.75
18. Avon, S. D.—First	10,660.05
19. Plevna, Mont.—First	9,223.20
20. Aplington, Iowa	8,985.01
21. Dallas, Ore.—Salt Creek	8,979.72
22. Tacoma, Wash.—Calvary	8,937.29
23. Lansing, Mich.—Colonial Village	8,919.03
24. Carbon, Alberta	8,861.60
25. Emery, S. D.—First	8,842.89

PER CAPITA DENOMINATIONAL MISSION GIVING

1. Lorraine, Kan.—First	\$104.02
2. Minneapolis, Minn.—Faith	90.56
3. Plevna, Mont.—First	77.50
4. Forest Park, Ill.—Forest Park	70.52
5. Branch, La.—Mowata	68.11
6. Corona, S. D.—First	66.56
7. Kyle, Texas—Immanuel	65.77
8. Hoboken, N. J.—Willow Avenue	61.90
9. Chicago, Ill.—Foster Avenue	55.16
10. Loyal, Okla.—Immanuel	50.80
11. East Detroit, Mich.—Ridgemont	50.37
12. Germantown, N. D.— Church by the Highway	45.09
13. Bethlehem, Pa.—Calvary	39.46
14. Enid, Okla.—West Broadway	39.37
15. Morris, Man.—Emmanuel	38.01
16. Carbon, Alberta	37.87
17. Oak Bank, Manitoba	37.85
18. Stafford, Kan.—Calvary	37.44
19. Cedar Falls, Iowa—Cedarloo	36.81
20. Portland, Ore.—Bethany	36.74
21. Avon, S. D.—First	35.89
22. Benton Harbor, Mich.— Napier Parkview	35.61
23. Drumheller, Alta.—Zion	35.61
24. Odessa, Washington	34.91
25. Xenia, Ohio—Community	34.66

CHURCH DEDICATION



The newly dedicated sanctuary of the McKernan Baptist Church, Edmonton, Alberta.

Dedication services were held at the McKernan Baptist Church, Edmonton, on March 13, 1966. Special guests in attendance were Mr. A. W. Strohschein, M.L.A., representing the Provincial Government, who is also a member of our Baptist denomination; The Honorable Mayor Vince Dantzer; the District Secretary, Rev. William Sturhahn; and Rev. David J. Draewell of Forest Park, Ill., Secretary of Stewardship and Higher Education. Over 850 people gathered for the dedication service.

The McKernan Baptist Church was organized in 1951 with 91 charter members. Construction on the building in which we have worshiped till now was started in the summer of 1952 and was dedicated in 1954. The original plan called for an educational wing to be added later. By 1959 the membership had grown to nearly 250, and this plan was no longer considered practical.

By 1962 it was evident that additional space was required. We agreed to build a new sanctuary and convert the former one into educational facilities. Our present church membership is 315.

Total cost for erecting the building has amounted to \$153,000 and the furnishings \$7,000. The new sanctuary seats 416 people with an additional 48 in the choir loft. Additional seating can be provided for approximately 100 people. The church has been wired for closed circuit T. V. With the large Fellowship Hall this enables accommodation for approximately 1,200. Closed circuit T. V. was used for our dedication services. Following the afternoon service, a turkey dinner was served to all in attendance.

The McKernan Baptist Church is the closest Baptist church to the University of Alberta campus; therefore many students attend our services. We are also the home church for students of C. T. I.

We have so much for which to be grateful. The loyal and enthusiastic service, together with the sacrificial giving by all, has made this beautiful sanctuary possible. Rev. Charles Littman is our pastor. (Mrs. Llewellyn Bertsch, Reporter).



WASHINGTON, D. C. (RNS). The Baptist Unity Movement, a voluntary group of clergy and layman, voted at its fourth annual meeting here to incorporate and seek tax exemption as a non-profit, religious organization. Dedicated to "healing the divisions among Baptists in the U. S.," the movement has no official connection with any Baptist Convention. But ministers and laymen from national conventions are active in the movement.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (BWA). The Governor of Hong Kong has notified the Baptist World Alliance that he cannot guarantee completion of convention facilities in time for a Baptist World Congress in 1970. The Alliance had voted to hold its 1970 Baptist World Congress in Hong Kong "provided adequate facilities can be assured." Josef Nordenhaug, general secretary of the Alliance, said that the choice of an alternate meeting place will be considered by the B. W. A. Executive Committee when it meets in London, August 1-4. Tokyo, Japan, was named as an alternate meeting place when the Hong Kong vote was taken at the Baptist World Congress at Miami Beach in 1965.

POLAND (ABNS). All seven members of the newly-elected Council of the Polish Baptist Church promised loyalty to the Polish laws and constitution at a ceremony in the State Office for Church Affairs. They were headed by the Rev. Alexander Kircun and the Rev. Zdzislaw Pawlik, who are chairman and secretary respectively, of the Council. The ceremony was reported by the Warsaw Radio which said relations between the Baptist Church and the state were "good." Polish Baptists are estimated to number about 6,000. All high-ranking church officials are requested to make such a pledge before assuming office.

SACRAMENTO, CALIF. (ABNS). "American Baptists Favor Justice for Farm Workers" was the message on signs carried by A.B.C. participants in the final day of the 300 mile Holy Week pilgrimage of California farm workers. These Baptists joined a delegation of church leaders in Sacramento for the conclusion of the Delano to Sacramento Pilgrimage on the weekend of April 10, as a witness to ABC resolutions in recent years and as a way of sharing concern for the plight of grape strikers in California, who are pressing for the right of farm workers to organize and bargain collectively. One American Baptist resolution states: "In our relatively affluent so-

● **Mrs. August Runtz of Seattle, Wash.,** wife of Rev. August Runtz, passed away on April 22, 1966. An obituary appears elsewhere in this issue.

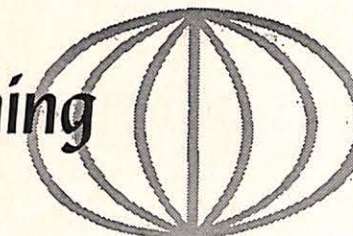
● **The Reverend August Kraemer,** a retired NAB pastor, of Vancouver, B. C., went to his heavenly home on May 3. The obituary will appear at a later date.

● **Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Mehlhaff of Lodi, Calif.,** are the proud parents of a baby girl, Jill Allyn, born April 26. Mr. Mehlhaff is the Director of Chris-

faithful service rendered and with love in their hearts for their pastor's family, Rev. and Mrs. Paul Meister and Cathleen Kay, the First Baptist Church of Watertown, voted a substantial increase in the pastor's salary. (Mrs. J. J. Abel, Reporter).

● **Rev. Wilhelm Wieschollek,** pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church Milwaukee, Wis., in addition to his pastoral duties, has consented to serve as the German editor of the *Lektions Blaetter* (Sunday school lessons). Rev. John Grygo has served in this capacity during the

what's happening



tian Education of the First Baptist Church, Lodi.

● **Mr. Emil Quade of the Immanuel Baptist Church, Milwaukee, Wis.,** served as the chairman of the evangelism committee for the Milwaukee Association Week of Evangelism Emphasis recently.

● **Mr. Ted Keck of Nyssa, Ore.,** a 1966 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, S. D., has accepted the call to serve as the pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, near Elmo, Kan. He succeeds Rev. Oliver K. Ringering of Crawford, Texas.

● **Mr. Paul Zimmerman, son of Rev. and Mrs. G. K. Zimmerman, Forest Park, Ill.,** graduated from Elmhurst College (Ill.) in June with a B.A. degree. He plans to continue his studies in the areas of counseling and music. He presented his senior organ recital on May 12.

● **Mr. Kendrick Gould of Tacoma, Wash.,** has accepted the call to become the pastor of the Startup Baptist Church, Startup, Wash. Mr. Gould, a 1966 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary, succeeds Rev. Alvin Harsch, who served as interim pastor at Startup, now pastor of Swain Oaks Baptist, Stockton, Calif.

● **Watertown, Wis. In recognition of**

ciety it is a tragic fact that half a million migratory American workers earn a meager living in seasonal agricultural work. Recognizing legitimate manpower needs, it remains that exploitation of migrant workers for business profit which results in standard education, wages, transportation and housing is un-Christian." (Passed in 1962).

past five years. Rev. Bruno Schreiber will continue as the English editor.

● **Mr. Eugene Kern of Leduc, Alta.,** Canada, a 1966 graduate of the North American Baptist Seminary has been extended a call to become the pastor of the Central Baptist Church, Yorkton, Sask., Canada. Mr. Kern, who gave a favorable reply, succeeds Rev. Walter Kerber, who is doing church extension work in the Burlington-Oakville area, Ontario.

● **Rev. Reinhold Wilde, pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist Church at Valley View, Alberta,** was ordained by the church on November 14, 1965, after a duly called and constituted council had examined the candidate. The examination took place during the Alberta Association sessions in the Immanuel Church at Edmonton, while the ordination itself took place in Valley View.

● **Mr. Harold Johns of Forest Park, Ill.,** left May 24 for Cameroon, Africa, on a 21 day tour. He will endeavor to photograph the activities of our mission work there with the purpose of providing photographs for filmstrips which will later be made available to our churches. Mr. Johns, recently appointed as \$1.00-a-year man, will be contributing much of his time and money for projects such as these.

● **Rev. Alfred Weisser, administrator of the Baptist Home, Bismarck, N. D.,** was presented with a certificate of recognition for devoted and unselfish service to God and his church as a minister of the Gospel by Dakota Wesleyan University, Mitchell, S. D. This recognition came at a recent Founders Day Banquet in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of D.W.U. Mr. Weisser is a graduate of the University in the class of 1950.

NEWS AND VIEWS

ST. LOUIS, MO. (ABNS). At its 59th anniversary convention here, the Associated Church Press honored the Rev. William B. Lippard, retired editor emeritus of *Missions* magazine, by establishing a permanent award named after him. The award will be given from time to time to persons who have made exceptionally significant contributions to Christian journalism.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. (ABNS). The death of God theology "is a false religion—another gospel," said Billy Graham (*Decision* magazine, May issue). "Thousands of uninstructed Christians are being deceived. False teachers use high-sounding words that seem like the epitome of scholarship and culture." Mr. Graham warned that "no Christian, however spiritual, is beyond the seductive assaults of Satan. . . . He invades the theological seminary and even the pulpit." Mr. Graham feels that "these false teachers" can never rob God "of one cubit of his glory, majesty, and power," and that "God is laughing at the silly arguments of these supposedly learned men." The death-of-God theologians "represent only a small, vocal group that is being given publicity because their views are so far-out and so radical," he said.

DENVER, COLO. (ABNS). Dr. Rufus Jones, general director of the Conservative Baptist Home Mission Society, was elected president of the National Association of Evangelicals at its 24th annual convention. Other officers elected were Dr. Arnold T. Olson, president of the Evangelical Free Church of America, first vice-president; Dr. Hudson T. Armerding, president of Wheaton (Ill.) College, second vice-president; and Dr. Cordas C. Burnett, president of Bethany Bible College, Santa Cruz, Calif., secretary. Robert C. Van Kampen, was re-elected treasurer and was named "Layman of the Year" by the NAE.

CHURCH ARCHITECTURE. Every aspect of church building and architecture from the esthetic to labor contracts was reviewed in April at the 27th National Conference on Religious Architecture. In his keynote address on the conference theme: "An End to False Witness—A Challenge," Dr. Robert McAfee Brown, professor of religion at Stanford University, startled the more than 700 attending by asking if they were not building too many churches. No space in modern society is less efficiently used, he said, than church space. He recommended

multiple use of church buildings and facilities by several denominations. The speaker also called on all those involved in church building to end discriminatory clauses in labor contracts calling it "sheer hypocrisy" for churches to condone discrimination in hiring and other labor policies.

ATLANTA, GA. Billy Graham will go to Poland this year at the invitation of that nation's Protestant churches to help them celebrate the establishing of Christianity there 1,000 years ago. The invitation to participate in the celebration originally came from the Baptists in Poland, but all of the Protestant churches in the country have indicated they will support the meetings. In connection with Graham's visit, the churches will print 5,000 copies of a Polish edition of his best-selling book, *Peace With God*.

LONDON, ENGLAND. Nearly 20,000 people enrolled in the Christian Life and Witness classes to prepare for the Billy Graham Greater London Crusade which was held in June.

OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY. Nearly 500 students indicated first decisions for Christ during an "Operation Other Side" campaign by Campus Crusade on the campus in April. In 125 discussion groups and a campus-wide rally, Christianity was described to students who reject the faith without investigating it.

SEGREGATED COLLEGES. The government in its first move under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to lure four Protestant colleges from segregation, moved to cut off National Defense Education Act student loans, which have totaled \$1,491,832 at the four schools. The Civil Rights Act forbids racial discrimination in federally assisted programs. The colleges that refused to comply with the act were Bob Jones University, Greenville, S. C., Mississippi College, Clinton, Miss., Sweet Briar (Virginia) College, and Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tenn.

GHANA. Rev. Chester L. Marcus, Africa secretary for the United Church Board for World Ministries, was in Ghana when President Kwame Nkrumah was overthrown. He reported general rejoicing over the development and predicted the new government would be much more pro-Western.

BIBLE READING. NBC-TV took a nationwide poll recently for use on a program testing political attitudes. The results showed that 76 per cent of Americans disagree that "prayer and Bible reading should not be allowed in public schools;" 17 per cent agree, and 7 per cent said they agree or disagree in part.

GREENVILLE, S. C. A genuine relaxing of inter-family strife is one of

the direct results of a recently-concluded Billy Graham Crusade in Greenville, S. C., claims a family court judge of that city. Judge J. W. Hicks reported a large number of cases have been settled between husbands and wives as a result of the crusade.

EAST PAKISTAN. Religious education, presumably Islamic, is to be made compulsory in secondary schools all over the province of East Pakistan, beginning the next academic year. Addressing a conference of leading Moslem religious leaders at Dacca, Gov. Abdul Munim Khan also said his government has a plan to set up a mosque in each district headquarters to serve as "ideal seat for the spread of Islam." The governor did not clarify whether non-Moslem students and schools conducted by minority communities will be exempted from the proposed classes in Islam.

RUSSIA. "The atheistic propaganda in Russia has not decreased, but it has changed. Where it used to be anticlerical, it now tries to operate on a so-called 'scientific' basis, without making fun of the ministry and Church," states Metropolitan Nikodim, Director of the Foreign Office of the Russian Orthodox Church. The Church faces its greatest challenge today in the field of Christian education, he said. Teaching in the schools is saturated with atheistic propaganda. The Church is permitted to preach only in the Church buildings or in private homes. As a result, preaching and the transmission of what is heard in sermons in the homes and churches assumes much greater importance in the Soviet Union today than previously.

THE CHURCH TODAY. If the church sees its task to be giving the public what it wants, then it will continue to ignore the ethics and morals of business and industry. But the Christian Church is not a commercial television network. Though it has for centuries seemed to be largely an agency for the comfort of its congregations, it cannot long survive unless, like its Founder, it stirs up the people by making large numbers of them acutely uncomfortable. (Pierre Berton in his book, *The Comfortable Pew*).

THE POOR AND THE RICH. Among a minority of the peoples of the world today the standard of living is rising dramatically. But the poor nations remain as poor as ever. Often the best efforts of a society, reinforced by help from other nations (including the United States and the United Nations) produce an economic growth that is cancelled out by the greater rate of population growth. The consequent hunger and frustration are a constant threat to peace and stability. Desperate people, suffering in poverty in a world where prosperity is a tantalizing possibility, are not likely to be patient. Those who feel they have

(Continued on page 17)



BY MRS. DELMAR WESSELER
of Lorraine, Kansas
President of the Woman's Missionary Union

OUR TAPESTRY OF LOVE

This paraphrase of I Corinthians 13 was written for those engaged in women's work. Its message will challenge you each time you prayerfully read and meditate upon it.

"Though I speak with ease and brilliance before groups of women and have not love for the individual woman in my heart, my words are empty and I am nothing.

And though I have a thorough knowledge of women's work and understand my organization fully and have not love for the people it is meant to serve, I gain nothing.

And though I attend countless meetings and give unlimited hours of my time and have not a personal and loving relationship with God, I am nothing.

Love is patient with the weaknesses of others: it is irritable or rude. Love does not insist on its way; it is able to take criticism without being unduly hurt. Love does not need recognition or acclaim for its labors. Love is not aware of social position or lack of it; it does not hear gossip.

Love reaches out to touch the best qualities in each woman. Love never gives up seeking answers to the thorniest problems, and love gives the strength and endurance to work out their solutions. Love and the work that love does will never end.

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I read childish literature and in general lived life on a lighter level. But now, I am a mature woman, and I am responsible to think deeply about life and invest my hours and days wisely and well.

For now as we see things in the uncertain light of this world, we are often confused and frustrated and discouraged; but then, in the pure light of eternity we shall see the threads of our work woven into a pattern of everlasting beauty and value. And now we have—faith in God, hope for the future of the humanity we serve—and love for God and one another, and the greatest of these is LOVE."

(Continued from page 16)

nothing to lose by war are not likely to be impressed by the dangers of a world-wide holocaust. (Dr. Roger L. Shinn, Union Theological Seminary, in testimony before the Senate Sub-

June 15, 1966

The Minister's Workshop

Faculty members of the NAB Seminary and of the Christian Training Institute consider the Christian minister in his study and in his involvements in life situations and problems of our day.

By Dr. Bernard Schalm, Christian Training Institute Faculty,
Edmonton, Alberta

Does evangelical preaching lack creativity? Charges that evangelical sermons are antiquated, dull, and irrelevant are not uncommon. What is disturbing, however, is that such charges are no longer confined to the liberal camp. In a private survey Joseph T. Bayly, columnist for *Eternity*, invited the reaction of the evangelical public and came up with twelve reasons for the dearth of creativity among evangelicals. What are some of the common criticisms voiced by our parishioners?

COMMON CRITICISMS

To begin with evangelical preachers are accused of treating history, both personal and collective, with contempt. Historians representing the evangelical position are few indeed. Preoccupation with the present, and particularly the future, resulted in discontinuity with the past. Hence, pre-conversion experiences are regarded as irrelevant to Christian commitment.

Secondly, the evangelical position is frequently presented as a "closed system." The finality of Scripture is applied to every situation, even though Scriptural authority is lacking. Advocates of such a closed system value security more than creativity. Since new ideas may threaten the status quo of the congregation, they are suppressed. Such efforts as are expended, are put forth in self-defiance rather than in creative outreach.

Thirdly, evangelical preachers in general have a pragmatic orientation. Meditation and reflection, the very spring of creativity, are dismissed as a "waste of time." Paul's admonition, "redeeming the time," is believed to mean "physical activity." Intellectual excursions are profitable only if they lead to an immediate, practical Chris-

committee on Foreign Aid Expenditures.)

DR. EMIL BRUNNER, world famous Swiss Protestant theologian and author who lectured at many European and American universities, died in Zurich, Switzerland, April 6, at the age of 77. He was a professor of theology at the University of Zurich from 1924 until his retirement some years ago when he was named professor emeritus. Dr. Brunner's numerous books had a worldwide influence in the field of theology. Among his works were *Man in Revolt*, *The Christian Teaching*, and *Our Beliefs*.

tian application.

Fourthly, evangelicals are known for their tendency to avoid ambiguous situations. They feel insecure and embarrassed when confronted with questions to which they cannot respond with a simple "yes" or "no." They address themselves to issues which are either "white" or "black" and remain silent on the more weighty matters which are neither white nor black, but "grey." Fear of ambiguity keeps evangelical preachers from associating with those who hold different theological views, an association which is sometimes necessary for creative breakthroughs.

THEOLOGICAL ISOLATION

Finally, evangelical sermons frequently lack creativity, because they are born and nurtured in a climate characterized by theological and intellectual isolation. Worship lacks originality, because the preacher has never become familiar with forms and modes of worship practiced in other denominations. Preconceived ideas and theological presuppositions prevent him from enriching his Christian experience through reading, writing, and association. Instead of "examining" new ideas, he is too prone to "judge" them. Being isolated from the main stream of current thought, he does not really face the world as it is.

It would not only be unfair but also untrue to say that all evangelical ministers preach sermons which lack creativity. There are many who have won a reputation for preaching sermons which bring the whole Bible to bear upon the needs of the whole man. Notwithstanding these, there is, no doubt, room for improvement in this all important function of the Christian ministry.

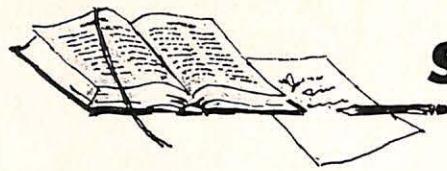
SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

(Continued from page 18)

Spirit. In the Old Testament God commanded; in the New he commands and empowers.

Questions for Discussion

1. What is the difference between a child which feels it has to obey the parent and a child which wants to obey?
2. What is the difference between the Old Testament commandments and New Testament?
3. What is the difference between civil law and Christian law?



sunday school lessons

REV. B. C. SCHREIBER, FOREST PARK, ILLINOIS

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: June 26, 1966

Theme: **THE FALL OF JERUSALEM**

Scripture: **II Chronicles 36:11-21**

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT: It would add much more to the glory of God if we could speak of the rise of Jerusalem rather than the fall of Jerusalem.

INTRODUCTION: We wish this story would have a different ending, so that it could be said of God and Judah, "They lived happily ever after." But such is sadly and tragically not the case. Many years ago Esau sold his birthright for a mess of pottage. Now it seems as if the whole nation of Judah threw away its birthright. After Josiah's reformation the nation declined rapidly until utter destruction overwhelmed them. Jehonah, his son, reigned only three months before he was deposed by Pharaoh Neco of Egypt. He was followed by Jehoiakim who reigned for eleven years. His tragic rule and selfish living is described vividly in Jeremiah 22:13-19. During the reign of the next king, Jehoiachin, Nebuchadnezzar invaded Jerusalem, captured the king and deported the best of the people to Babylonia. Zedekiah was appointed king, but after an attempt to throw off the yoke of Babylon he was captured and forced to witness the execution of his sons, before his eyes were put out, and finally died in prison.

I. THE DISOBEDIENT KING. II Chronicles 36:11-13.

Zedekiah's most serious conflict became evident in his relationship with the prophet Jeremiah. He was a difficult task of trying to prepare the people of Judah for captivity. But whenever Jeremiah counseled Zedekiah to accept defeat graciously and as the will of God, the princes of the court and the king's advisers resisted him. When Zedekiah's fears overwhelmed him, he would summon Jeremiah for counsel. He was swayed first by one group and then by another, by false prophets and by true prophets. Finally he allowed himself to be persuaded to join in a plot to rebel against Babylon, contrary to the earnest advice of Jeremiah (Jer. 27).

II. THE DISOBEDIENT NATION. II Chronicles 36:14-16.

The words "stiffened" and "hardened" are reminders of Pharaoh in Egypt before the exodus. The physical tensions are indications of moral inflexibility. God was unable to turn neither

the king's head nor the nation's head in any other direction. They were like the stubborn character who always said, "My head is made up." Such a nation cannot respond to the tender influence of God's Spirit. They were doomed to having their own way which led to destruction.

II. THE TRAGIC RESULT OF DISOBEDIENCE. II Chronicles 36:17-21.

The suffering of the people was unbearable, because the Babylonian soldiers were ruthless in their treatment. The temple which stood for hundreds of years was pillaged, and everything of value was taken away. However, a note of hope and encouragement was included in the prophecy of Jeremiah. Jerusalem would again see better days. Although God's judgment cannot be averted, we also have the hope that through it all his love is still evident.

Questions for Discussion

1. When God sends judgment upon a nation, is it fair that the innocent must suffer with the guilty?
2. How can Jeremiah refer to Nebuchadnezzar as God's servant?
3. What symptoms can you observe in our country that seem to point to a day of judgment?

A TEACHING GUIDE

Date: July 3, 1966

Theme: **GOD'S RIGHT TO COMMAND**

Scripture: **Exodus 20:1-2; Leviticus 18:1-5; Hosea 11:1, 3-4a; John 14:10, 15**

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT: God has a right to command, to demand and to reprimand.

INTRODUCTION: After witnessing the decline and fall of Jerusalem we are left with a feeling of despair at this tragic scene. We wonder how it is possible for a defeated people to rise again. But all the nations that have contributed to their downfall have come and gone, and God's chosen people are still a nation to be reckoned with.

But their defeat was not so much a result of the military powers which surrounded them as the spiritual and moral weaknesses within. A study of the Ten Commandments during this quarter, as interpreted and applied in the teachings of Jesus and New Testament writers, will give us more insight as to the cause of spiritual strength or weakness.

On the surface the Ten Commandments seem clear and simple. Yet someone estimated that there are 35,000,000 laws on the books trying to enforce the Ten Commandments.

God, because he is God, has certain claims upon the lives of his children. There are rules and principles to be followed if we seek happiness for ourselves and usefulness as Christians.

I. GOD'S GREAT EXPECTATION. Exodus 20:1, 2; Leviticus 18:1-5.

It seems strange that all of the physical universe should be governed by fixed and definite laws subject to the Creator, and that man, the crown of creation, should be so far removed from fellowship with God. Man, generally, has not yet submitted himself to the laws of the spiritual world, and by breaking the laws of God he is breaking his own life. The life which God gave us must be lived in God's way. Right and wrong cannot be changed according to man's will. The new morality cannot be substituted for God's morality. If God is the same yesterday, today and forever then his laws and principles will also stand forever. "I am the Lord thy God" should be first and foremost in our minds.

II. GOD'S DISAPPOINTMENT. Hosea 11:1, 3.

Why should it be so difficult to understand that God's judgments and ordinances are given to make man happy, to help him find life? "Which if a man do, he shall live in them." Hosea, however, reveals to us, in sad and tragic language, the consequences of the disobedience and sin of Israel.

It seems that in the love and compassion of God there is revealed the wish that Israel were a child again, so that he could lead them. This is a close parallel to the New Testament in which Jesus says that, "Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:3). The man who has grown up to be independent of God has cancelled himself out of the kingdom.

III. GOD'S EXPECTATION THROUGH CHRIST. John 14:10, 15.

In the New Testament we know God through Jesus Christ and understand his love much better. But Jesus had to remind his disciples in his farewell message to remember his teachings. Everything he said had the authority of God behind it. But it must be accepted by faith, practiced with love and permeated throughout by the Holy

(Continued on page 17)

OUR DENOMINATION IN ACTION

CBY (youth) fellowship

WATERTOWN, WIS. The young people of the Bethel Baptist Church of Sheboygan, presented an inspiring program in the First Baptist Church of Watertown on a recent Sunday evening. Rev. and Mrs. Arthur J. Fischer accompanied them. (Mrs. J. J. Abel, Reporter).

MEDINA, N. DAK. In observing youth week we took part in Wednesday and Sunday services. Our officers were installed with a special service. They are president Clara Moser, vice president Abel Dockter, secretary Errol Schmidt, treasurer Wanda Gillespie, financial treasurer Patty Staeger, and assistant pianist Dockter. We had visitation in different homes in our city. On Feb. 5, along with our advisors, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Dockter, we traveled to Bismarck to the Baptist Home to present a program of spiritual food for our elderly brothers and sisters. The C. B. Y. also brought canned and baked foods for the Home. (Errol Schmidt, Reporter).



Newly elected CBY officers Medina, N. Dak. are (left to right) Ivahn, Dockter, Errol Schmidt, Abel Dockter, Clara Moser, Wanda Gillespie, Patty Staeger.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

GLADWIN, MICH. The Women's Mission Circle of the Round Lake Baptist Church, Gladwin, presented their annual program on Sunday evening, May 1, with Mrs. Ada Shultz presiding. The program began with singing, followed by scripture and prayer, after which a sincere welcome was extended to Miss Esther Schultz of Cameroon, West Africa, speaker of the evening. The Women's Mission Circle sang "There Is Joy in Serving Jesus." Reports were given by Secretary Jean Kleiss, Treasurer Frieda Will, Mission Treasurer Violet Doede, and Sunshine Lady Elsie Peck.

Rev. Norman Berkan gave a dedica-

MINOTONAS, MAN., NORTHERN MAN. TRI-UNION. The Northern Manitoba Tri-Union met for a song festival on Sunday, April 24, at the First Baptist Church of Minotonas. Besides several vocal numbers, the Tri-Union choir of sixty voices directed by Mr. Jerry Koutecky and accompanied by Carol Hart, presented the anthems, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," "Redeemed, Oh Sing the Joyful Strain," "Tis marvellous and wonderful," and "Stand up for Jesus." The message on "Faith is the Victory" was brought by Rev. A. Buhler of Swan River, Man. Rev. A. Sootzmann, dean of the junior camp, and Rev. H. A. Pohl, dean of the youth camp, enthused the audience in brief talks for the 1966 camp activities. Additional dormitories will be built on the Wellman Lake campgrounds. Under the experienced leadership of Mr. Walter Bures, president, and Mrs. Herb Grieger, vice-president, together with a group of dedicated officers and workers and supported by the co-operating organizations, the Northern Manitoba Tri-Union makes Christ and salvation through him known to others with particular interest in serving juniors, intermediates and young people. (H. A. Pohl, Reporter).

nurse in Nigeria, was the guest speaker and showed colored slides of her field work. Special music was brought by a sextet and two numbers by the entire ladies group. Mrs. Elsie Freeman, vice-president, gave an historical report on the "twenty-five years of the WMS." A decorated cake in the shape of a Bible, white mums sprayed with silver, and silver candelabras were lovely at the reception immediately following. We enjoyed the presence of many visitors. It was a spiritual highlight of our church year. (Mrs. Fred M. Penner, Reporter).



Charter members of the Paul, Ida, W.M.S., (left to right) Mrs. George Comstock, Mrs. Fred Renz, Mrs. Richard Praegitzer.

WATERTOWN, WIS. The Women's Missionary Society of the First Baptist Church of Watertown, was very fortunate to have its own missionary, Miss Ruth Rabenhorst, as its speaker on three different occasions. God's nearness was keenly felt, for Ruth's love for the lost and her radiant submission to the will of God make her a blessing wherever she goes. The society and church miss one of its faithful members, Mrs. Wm. Nowack, who is now residing in the Central Baptist Home, Norridge, Ill. She served as a missionary in China for 20 years together with her husband, the late Rev. Wm. Nowack, and then they retired in Watertown. Our loss is their gain. (Mrs. J. J. Abel, Reporter).

KANKAKEE, ILL. The Westaskiwin Circle of the W.M.S. of the church was in charge of the surprise birthday party on April 1 for Rev. and Mrs. Schreiber, both of whose birthdays fell on that day. The centerpiece of spring flowers on the serving table was presented to the Schreibers by the circle. Also featured was a cake made in the shape of a Bible, properly inscribed and with the verse from James 1:17: "Every good gift . . . is from the Father." Another cake was also presented to them. "Mel" Dibble pronounced the blessing, and "Happy Birthday" was sung. (Alice Luhrs, Reporter).

PAUL, IDA. The annual program of the WMS of the First Baptist Church, Paul, Ida., was given at the Sunday evening service, March 27. Celebration for the 25th Anniversary of the Society was combined into the program for the evening. Mrs. Marcella Smith of Jeffers, Minn., former missionary



Women's Missionary Society members of the First Baptist Church, Dickinson County, Kan.

DICKINSON COUNTY, KANSAS

Mrs. Delmar Wessler, national president of the Woman's Missionary Union, of Lorraine, Kansas, was the guest speaker for the Sunday evening service on March 6. This special program presented by the W.M.S. was the second observance in honor of the church's centenary. After telling interesting features about church women's activities in earlier days, Mrs. Wessler presented the challenge portrayed by the biblical Dorcas, "a typical missionary society member of today with her needle as her tool and her home as her workshop. She could have given her coins only, but she gave herself." Mrs. Wessler cited pertinent information about the voluminous White Cross contributions.

Mrs. Harvey Ihde, W.M.S. president, led the congregational singing. Mrs. C. A. Piper, vice-president, gave the devotions. Informative and humorous excerpts from secretarial records were read by Mrs. Edwin Walter, secretary. A ladies quartette—Mrs. Glee Anderson, Mrs. Lowell Abeldt, Mrs. Delmar Sandow, and Mrs. Howard Jacobson—provided special music. Mrs. Calvin Guthals was pianist. An offering was received for missionary work in the Camerouns.

Preceding the service, a basket supper fellowship was enjoyed by W.M.S. and church families, Mr. and Mrs. Wessler, former W.M.U. members, and other guests. The tables were covered with red and white checked cloths, and kerosene lamps provided the light.

LODI, CALIF., TEMPLE. The Women's Missionary Society of the Temple Baptist Church held their Mother-Daughter Banquet on Tuesday evening, May 3, 1966, which began with a most delicious chicken dinner. The evening was entitled, "Patterns For Living," and the instruction sheet which was prepared for us rather than give instructions for sewing a garment, gave us instructions for living a Christian life, quoting various appropriate scripture verses. The program pattern told us of the entire evening's program, which included group singing, special music, readings, devotions and then a fashion show, consisting of clothes made by the women and daughters attending, each modeling their own garments. The last model to appear was Mrs. Robert (Stephanie) Radcliffe, the

wife of our Christian Education Director, who modeled their little son, born Apr. 8, named Richard James. Awards were given for the youngest daughter attending; the mother with the youngest daughter-in-law; the oldest charter member of our WMS; the member bringing the most guests during the year; and to our pastor's wife, Mrs. Eldon Schroeder who was presented with a small toy telephone with the indication that she was to receive a free telephone call to her mother in Kansas. Since the mother of Mrs. Radcliffe, had just spent two weeks in their home, she received material and pattern for sewing a garment. Our devotions were likened to the instructions of a regular pattern, and the instructions given to us in God's Word as a pattern for our lives. (Mrs. Leonard Fischer, Reporter).

NORTH FREEDOM, WIS. On March 27, at the Sunday evening service of the North Freedom Baptist Church the Womens Missionary Society held their annual meeting with Dr. Richard Schilke as guest speaker. He spoke on the mission fields. After the service there was a time of fellowship in the church basement. (Louise G. Faivre, Reporter).

DETROIT, MICHIGAN. The Women's Missionary Societies of the eleven North American Baptist Churches of the Greater Detroit, Michigan, Area held their annual spring luncheon on April 19 at the Bethel Baptist Church. There were around 200 members present. A business meeting at 11 A.M. preceded the luncheon which was presided over by Mrs. Mildred Cape, president. Mrs. Adolph Braun of the Redeemer Church led in the devotional. The annual reports of the societies were given at this time.

The luncheon was followed by a program in the afternoon, conducted by the president. After the song service there was the welcome, scripture and prayer. Scripture verses were given by the various societies in response to the roll call. After the installation of officers, vice-president and secretary, two special numbers were rendered by a sextette of the Ridgmont Church who sang "The King of Love My Shepherd Is," and later in the program a solo by Mrs. Glasscock of the First Baptist Church,

Utica. The speaker for the luncheon was Miss Esther H. Schultz, who gave an interesting account of the lives and work of the African women. (Erna Rief, Reporter).

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, McDERMOT AVENUE. Our motto for this year is taken from Galatians 6:9, "And let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." As a Woman's Mission Society we are trying to do just that. Our White Cross evening in February has been very rewarding. At the following regular meeting, we had a dialogue about this work. Our men were invited to see what is done on an evening like this.

On March 27 we celebrated our 61st anniversary as a Women's Mission Society. Besides songs and poems we had an interesting dialogue called "At the Crossroad" in which were illustrated the different ways of life people chose as they reached their crossroad. Some chose riches, some wisdom, some lust, and only one chose the cross of Jesus. Only this one went happily on her way. This dialogue has been a blessing to many who have seen it.

We have regular meetings once a month with an average attendance of approximately 55. Our membership at the moment is 93. We are all looking forward to our next meeting which will be a Mother and Daughter Banquet in May. Mrs. Stein, our president, has contributed a lot of effort in planning it. (Christel Spletzer, Secretary).

SOULS FOR CHRIST

(Continued from page 11)

visitation program in my church never interested me. I never realized one could receive such a blessing by going out knocking on doors and ringing door bells. Discouragements and disappointments come, but when you see souls make decisions for Christ as a result from your visit, the peace and joy which is yours is unexpressable. When I think sometimes the calling may be in vain, I am reminded of the verse found in I Cor. 15:58: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

We, as a team, have had the privilege and opportunity of enrolling in the Topical Memory System put out by the Navigators. I feel that hiding the Word of God in my heart has helped me so much in my Christian life. It is one of the most wonderful and effective ways of studying God's Word. We discussed and studied the verses in their contextual settings in our morning sessions. Through this memory system a verse which I have found very precious is Matt. 6:33: "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

I praise and thank my God for this wonderful opportunity and joy I experienced in serving him this year.

evangelistic services & baptisms



Six recently baptized by Pastor LeRoy Kiemele at North Freedom Baptist Church, Wisconsin, are (front row, left to right) Russell Kaney, Dale Koch, Linda Dickie; (back row) Kenneth and Billy Koch, Cheryl Dickie and Pastor Kiemele.

NORTH FREEDOM, WIS. Special meetings with the Rev. C. H. Walth, pastor of the Foster Ave. Baptist Church, Chicago, as guest speaker, were held at the North Freedom Baptist Church from March 21 through 25. His theme for the week was "God's Perfect Redemption." His messages were inspirational for all who attended, and the children especially enjoyed the "Childrens Story" each night.

On Easter Sunday evening our Church held baptismal services for six candidates: Linda and Cheryl Dickie, Russell Kaney, Dale, Kenneth and William Koch. Rev. LeRoy Kiemele presented the Easter Baptism as a service of praise and testimony, with a meditation on Baptism: A Step of Obedience." (Louise Green Faivre, Reporter).



New members received into the membership of the McClusky Baptist Church, N. D., on May 1.

MC CLUSKY, N. DAK. Easter Sunday, April 10, was a special day of praise and rejoicing for the McClusky Baptist Church, McClusky, N. Dak. At 6 A.M. the church was host to the community sunrise service sponsored by the local ministerial association. Many arrived at that early time to worship the risen Savior and fellowship around the breakfast tables. At the morning worship hour the pastor, Rev. W. G. Gerthe, brought the sermon, "The Living Savior Now." Following the evening service and the message, "What Is Following Jesus?" eight candidates were baptized on their pro-

fession of faith in the Lord Jesus. These eight, plus another lady accepted upon her testimony, were extended the hand of fellowship and received into the church at the communion service on May 1. We praise God for his Spirit working in our midst!

The Men's Brotherhood of the church has continued to sponsor Dakota Christian Crusades for this community. In January they arranged for a Father and Son Banquet. Approximately 125 men and boys were present to enjoy the fellowship of the meal and hear the speaker, Rev. John Benham, of Minot, N. Dak. The crusade in March featured a Billy Graham film. In April they sponsored the second appearance of the Palermo Brothers to a capacity crowd. May God use these crusades for the salvation of the many who came who are without Christ. (Mrs. Allen Faul, Reporter).



Recent candidates of the Carbon Baptist and Zion Baptist Churches and the Parkdale Church Extension work baptized by their respective pastors, Arthur Patzia, Fred Ohlmann and Allen Gerber.

CARBON, ALBERTA. On Easter Sunday evening, April 10, members of Carbon, Zion and the Parkdale Church Extension work in Drumheller, gathered at the Carbon Baptist Church for a joint baptismal service. Rev. Arthur Patzia of Carbon presided as chairman and welcomed the visitors. Rev. Fred Ohlmann read the scripture and led in prayer. Rev. Allan Gerber of Parkdale brought the message, taken from Romans 6:5. Appropriate musical numbers were supplied by the three churches. Twenty persons joyfully gave expression to their Christian faith through baptism. Five were baptized by Rev. Arthur Patzia, nine by Rev. Allan Gerber, and six by Rev. Fred Ohlmann.

At the communion service that followed, the hand of fellowship was extended to these new members by their respective pastors, and they were received into the membership of the church. As Parkdale is still an extension field and not yet incorporated as a church, the candidates from there were received, some as members of Carbon, and the greater majority into the fellowship of the Zion Baptist Church. All this has been possible only because of the gracious work of the Holy Spirit in applying the Word of God to the listening hearts. (David Gieck, Secretary).

BISMARCK, N. DAK. A Spiritual Life Crusade was conducted at the

Bismarck Baptist Church, Bismarck, during the third week of April by the Rev. Herman Effa of Linton, N. D., assisted by our pastor, Rev. Allan Strohschein. Rev. Effa brought challenging messages which stirred our hearts. Special music and a delightful story time for boys and girls captured the packed sanctuary every evening. First time decisions and rededications were made throughout the week with testimonies that touched us and gave us a real blessing.

On Sunday evening Mrs. Effa and their two children joined Rev. Effa in a special musical program including song and accompaniment, which we enjoyed so much. Mrs. Effa told us a little about their past life and work and of their plans for the future, as they hope to leave in August for Brazil, South America, to serve as missionaries of the North American Baptist Missionary Society. We wish to thank Rev. Effa and his family for the inspiring messages of the week and his example of unswerving loyalty to God. We wish them God's richest blessing. (Mrs. Robert Cooper, Reporter).



Pastor Bill Cowell of Calvary Baptist Church, Hoisington, Kan., with six recently baptized. (Back row, left to right) Pastor Cowell, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Cox, (2nd row) Mary Cochrane, Darla Copas, (1st row) Marsha Sinclair, Debbie Copas.

HOISINGTON, KANSAS. "Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised. . ." On March 13, 1966, we of the Calvary Baptist Church held our first baptismal service in the newly-installed baptistry in the basement of the church. We praise the Lord for the four young people and two adults who were baptized by our pastor, Rev. Bill Cowell. All six were received into the church on confession of faith. They were Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Cox, Debbie ad Darla Copas, Marsha Sinclair and Mary Cochrane.

The Spirit has been working in our church; attendance has risen considerably; decisions have been made for salvation and rededication; and a new spirit of unity and cooperation prevails. A blessing to our church and community was the recent showing of the Billy Graham film, "The Restless

(Continued on next page)

Ones." Also we praise the Lord for our newly-purchased parsonage next door to the church. (Mrs. Bill Cowell, Reporter).

CALGARY, ALBERTA, TEMPLE. A week of special meetings was held at the Temple Baptist Church from March 6-11 with Rev. W. Stein from Winnipeg, Man., as the evangelist. The messages were mostly directed to the Christians and the growing and walking with Christ. On April 17 we had a baptismal service at which time 20 young people confessed their faith in Christ publicly. Afterwards the hand of fellowship was extended to these new members. It was a blessed afternoon.

In the very near future, we will start building the very much needed Education Unit onto our church. Since the beginning of the year we have become bilingual. Our morning services are held in German and the evening services in the English language. (Mrs. B. Kerber, Reporter).

KANKAKEE, ILL. "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes." Immanuel Baptist Church experienced one of the greatest revivals in its history. God's instruments in bringing this to pass were Mel Dibble, John Landgraf, and Mrs. George "Mom" Dibble. We praise God for over 70 decisions recorded during the week, the large majority of them for salvation. Homes and families were made spiritually complete in Christ as husbands and teen-agers came to receive the Saviour.

Attendance at this Crusade, which was held from March 27 to April 3, was phenomenal with over 5000 people attending during the eight days. People came from communities as far as 50 miles from Kankakee.

As a result the church has a new awareness of its spiritual responsibility to the community. There is a renewed interest in a more aggressive youth program resulting from John Landgraf's "Youtharama" sessions which attracted an average of over 80 teenagers. Stimulated by "Mom" Dibble's Bible Hour the women are planning to sponsor a weekly Bible study hour for the women of the community. All of us praise God for the privilege of having witnessed and experienced genuine revival. It was of God; to Him be the glory. (Alice M. Luhrs, Reporter).

LODI, CALIF., FIRST. Easter Sunday evening, April 10, will long be remembered by the members of the First Baptist Church of Lodi, Calif. Our church was the scene of a beautiful baptismal service when 34 candidates, on confession of their faith, were baptized by our pastor, Rev. Aaron Buhler. Later in the service they were given the right hand of fellowship and welcomed into the membership of the church, together with 11 others who came by letter, or confession of faith and former baptism. We are praising God from whom all blessings flow.

On Sunday evening, April 17, our youth choir consisting of 49 voices presented the cantata, "Hallelujah! What a Saviour," by John Peterson. It was under the direction of Rev. Harvey Mehlhaff, our Director of Christian Education, with Dorothy Buhler at the organ and Janice Friedli at the piano. It was beautifully presented, and everyone seemed to receive a rich blessing from it. (Mrs. Emil Bansmer, Reporter).



Rev. R. Jaster and candidates he recently baptized at the Victoria Avenue Baptist Church, Chilliwack, B. C.

CHILLIWACK, BRITISH COLUMBIA. Easter morning dawned cloudy and rainy, weatherwise, but members of the Victoria Avenue Baptist Church had sunshine in their hearts. In the morning service Rev. Jaster spoke from Mark 16:3, "Who Shall Roll Us Away the Stone?" In the evening service he spoke from Acts 8:36, "What Doth Hinder Me To Be Baptized?" to a well filled auditorium. Later he entered baptismal waters with five candidates who were Monica Schulz, Rita Klaus, Marlene Schiwy, Rose Marie Schulz and Horst Schulz. Before they entered the baptismal waters, each in turn lighted a candle set on a table, depicting their new life in Christ and their willingness to shine for him. The small, but active choir, brightened the service with two well chosen numbers. Hearts went forth from this service to serve their Lord better. (Mrs. R. Jaster, Reporter).



Recent baptismal candidates at Martin Baptist Church, N. Dak., with their pastor, (back row, left to right) Rev. Gruenich, Mr. and Mrs. George Bender, Juli Rust, (front row) Linda Sommer, Candace Kost, Marlin Fiesel.

MARTIN, N. DAK. Six persons followed Christ in the waters of baptism

at the Martin Baptist Church, Martin, N. Dak., on the evening of Easter Sunday, April 10. In his kindly manner our pastor, Rev. Reuben Gruenich, gave the challenge of being ambassadors for Christ and to that we trust them into God's care for growing in faith and grace. (Mrs. Wesley W. Michelson, Reporter).

PARSIPPANY, NEW JERSEY. The Littleton Baptist Church, of Parsippany, was privileged to have the God's Volunteers Team Two with us from April 5-17 to conduct special services and do visitation work. Rev. Salios, their director, was an inspiration to all. We have not been in our new church building a year yet, and we praise the Lord for his hand in every area. We can notice a steady growth in our congregation. A real blessing to us has been the helpfulness and willingness of many of our folk to pitch right in and help wherever needed. Our pastor, Rev. Gordon C. Huisinga, has devoted much time and effort in working with our young people, who in turn, are reaching out in Christian service. We are deeply grateful for those standing by us in prayer, and for those of our sister churches who have made generous contributions for our work. (Mrs. Fred Biron, Reporter).



The Littleton Baptist Church, Parsippany, N. J., of which Rev. Gordon Huisinga is pastor.



New members recently received into the Central Baptist Church, George, Iowa.

GEORGE, IOWA, CENTRAL. Easter is always a joyous time, but the Lord added to our joy when our pastor, Rev. Harold Drenth of the Central Baptist Church, George, Iowa, extended the Hand of fellowship to thirteen new members. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Buss were received by letter, and the following by confession of faith followed by baptism: Mrs. Martha Hass, Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Dahlman, Mr. and Mrs. John Snuttjer and son, Larry, and

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Obituary

(Obituaries are to be limited to about 150 words. A charge of ten cents a line is made for all obituaries.)

MRS. AUGUSTA HEITMUELLER of New York City, New York

Mrs. Augusta Heitmueller (nee Freis) was born on Feb. 19, 1873, in Germany. She came to the U.S.A. at the age of 17 and was joined in marriage to Ernest Heitmueller on February 16, 1893. She was preceded in death by her husband 47 years ago, two sons, and one daughter.

Mrs. Heitmueller was taken ill suddenly in a nursing home, where she was recuperating from a broken hip caused by a fall. She passed away at the age of 93 on April 13, at Parson Hospital, New York City and was laid to rest at Pine Lawn Memorial Park, Farmingdale, L. I., on April 15.

She leaves to mourn three daughters: Mrs. Pauline Holmelin, Mrs. Philomena Freeman, and Mrs. Lillian Lynch, 22 grandchildren, and 47 great-grandchildren, as well as many other relatives and friends.

Mrs. Heitmueller has led a long, hard, and healthy life. She was faithful to her Lord and her Church. She is remembered as a devoted mother, as a compassionate friend, and as a dedicated Christian.

Second German Baptist Church
New York, New York
DANIEL KOLKE, pastor

MR. HUGO LABUS of Saddle Brook, New Jersey

Mr. Hugo Labus of Saddle Brook, N. J., was born on July 22, 1913 in Westphalia, Germany. As a boy he moved with his parents to Poland. During the Second World War he returned to Germany. In 1954 he and his family came to the United States.

Mr. Labus met death accidentally at work in New York City on March 22, 1966. He was laid to rest in the Church-plot of the Second German Baptist Church of New York in Weehawken, N. J. He leaves to mourn his wife Elfrida, one daughter, Elke, two sons, Peter and Rainer, one sister, and one step-sister.

Mr. Labus affiliated with the Baptists in Kattowitz, Poland by baptism in 1936. In the United States he was a member of the Second German Baptist Church. He is remembered by his immediate family as a good husband and father. By his friends, he was regarded as a man with a kind heart.

Second German Baptist Church
New York, New York
DANIEL KOLKE, pastor

MRS. ELLA MUSIKO of Carbon, Alberta

Mrs. Ella Musiko, nee Schmidt, was born on Jan. 26, 1915. With the exception of a few years in Calgary, she spent her entire life in the Carbon area. For several years she owned and operated the General Store in Grainger, Alta. Two years ago it was diagnosed that she was suffering from bone cancer, a disease which hospitalized her for 20 months and claimed her life on April 9, 1966.

Mrs. Musiko leaves to mourn her husband (Arthur) and 4 children: Diana (21); Linda (19); Arthur (16); and Patty (12). She is survived by 8 brothers, 5 sisters, and a number of relatives.

The funeral service was conducted in the Carbon Baptist Church with Rev. W. Muller bringing the message. Rev. R. Hermann also participated.

Carbon Baptist Church
Carbon, Alberta
ARTHUR G. PATZIA, Pastor

MR. ROBERT DOHN of Bismarck, North Dakota

Robert Dohn, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dohn was born at Eureka, S. Dak., on May 21, 1893. On November 6, 1919, he was married to Emma Delzer. They lived in the vicinity of Venturia, N. Dak., until 1951 when they moved to Bismarck.

Mr. Dohn had been in failing health for

the past five years. He passed away on Monday, April 4, having reached the age of 72 years.

Mr. Dohn accepted Christ as his personal Savior in 1920. In the same year he was baptized and became a member of the Venturia Baptist Church. Upon moving to Bismarck he became a member of the Bismarck Baptist Church. He was always faithful in his church attendance and made every attempt to be present at the church services, even in spite of his failing health.

Left to mourn his passing are his widow; one sister, Mrs. Fred Loeppes, Leola, S. D.; and a large number of relatives and friends.

But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly; wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for he hath prepared for them a city" (Heb. 11:16).

Bismarck, North Dakota
ALLAN STROHSCHNEIN, Pastor

MRS. HAROLD MATZ of Goodrich, North Dakota

Mrs. Mary D. (nee Lotz) Matz was born December 25, 1917, at Seattle, Wash., the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lotz, and passed away at a Bismarck hospital, April 17, 1966, at the age of 48 years, 3 months, 23 days. She has been in ill health for some years and entered the hospital April 10, with the flu which turned into pneumonia and pleurisy. She was recovering when she suffered a heart attack and the Lord took her home to deliver her forever from this suffering. On August 27, 1938, she married Harold Matz at Startup, Wash. They made their home in the Seattle area until 1951 when they came to Goodrich, N. D. In 1955 they returned to Sultan, Wash. In 1963 they again returned to Goodrich where they resided until her death.

Sister Matz was converted and baptized in 1944 at Startup, Wash., through the evangelistic ministry of Rev. G. G. Rauser. Rev. Hugo Zepik was her pastor. She united with the Startup Baptist Church. In 1963 she transferred her membership to the First Baptist Church of Goodrich, N. D., where she was a member at the time the Lord called her home. She has been a member of the various Mission Societies of the Church. She has done whatever she could as far as her health permitted her. One brother, Johnny Lotz, preceded her in death. She leaves to mourn her departure: her husband, Harold Matz; one son, Daniel at home; one daughter, Jeanette Matz, Seattle, Wash.; her parents; Mr. and Mrs. John B. Lotz, Mesa, Ariz.; one brother, Clifford Lotz, Seattle, Wash.; one sister, Alice (Mrs. Clarence) Huffman, Everett, Wash.; a host of relatives and friends.

Goodrich, North Dakota
REV. HUGO ZEPIK,
REV. JACOB EHMAN,
Officiating Pastors

MR. ABRAHAM QUIRING of Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mr. Abraham Quiring of Minneapolis, Minn., was born in Carson Township, Minn., on August 4, 1895. For 70 years he was permitted to walk this earth before the angel of death, knowing that his body was weak, tapped him on the shoulder and insisted that his time to go had come. For some time he had been suffering from a lingering illness. On April 1, 1966, his body just gave out and died. But the best that was in Mr. Quiring did not die, for he was one of the "blood-bought" ones. As a young married man, largely through the quiet influence of his wife, he gave his heart to Christ and was baptized.

Since 1924 he was a member of the Faith Baptist Church serving in various offices with special love and appreciation for the Board of Trustees and Building Committee. It is with deep gratitude that members remember his untiring efforts during the construction of the present sanctuary.

Mr. Quiring was married to Justina Wannon on March 1, 1917. Five children—Alvin, Wilmer (pastor in Rochester, N. Y.), Leona, Leonard and Edward—were entrusted to their gracious care and keeping. All bear the shock and sorrow of his death, except Leonard who was killed in action during the Second World War.

Faith Baptist Church
Minneapolis, Minnesota
DONALD N. MILLER, Pastor

MRS. AUGUST F. RUNTZ of Seattle, Washington

Mrs. August F. Runtz (nee Louise Trice) was born in Rochester, N. Y., October 30, 1892, and passed away on April 22, 1966, in Seattle, Wash., at the age of 73 years. As a young girl she was baptized by the Rev. Carl Daniel and united with the Andrews Street Baptist Church of Rochester. On May 16, 1916, she was united in marriage with my father, a recent graduate of Rochester

Theological Seminary, German Department. She and my father served the following churches: New Leipzig, N. Dak.; Trenton, Ill.; Pittsburgh, Penn.; and Peoria, Ill., where they labored for 16 years. She then became the matron of The North American Baptist Children's Home in St. Joseph, Mich. During the 13 years of service there she became a real mother to many of the children.

Shortly after retirement she and my father moved to Seattle, Wash. Here they united with the University Baptist Church. She leaves to mourn her death one daughter, Mrs. Lemuel Petersen; one granddaughter, Helsa; and a sister, Mrs. Barbara Field of Bridgeport, Conn., in addition to her husband.

MELBA (Mrs. Lemuel) PETERSEN,
Daughter

WILLIAM CHARLES KAUFFELDT of Arnprior, Ontario

Mr. William Charles Kauffeldt of Arnprior, Ont., was born on November 7, 1881, in Pakenham, Ont. In his early youth he made a profession of faith in Christ and shortly after was baptized and united with the Lyndock Baptist Church, Lyndock, Ont. In 1908 he was united in marriage to Augusta Remus. After moving to Arnprior he united with the First Baptist Church where he faithfully served his Lord. He served as deacon for many years after which he received the title of honorary deacon. He went to his heavenly home on April 16 at the age of 84 years.

He is survived by his wife, Augusta; 3 daughters: Mrs. Carl (Hilda) Haessler, Buffalo, N. Y., Mrs. Thomas (Hazel) Phillips and Mrs. Roy (Mercedes) Theros both of Arnprior; 4 sons: Leslie and Elmer of Arnprior, Kenneth of Ottawa, and Lawrence of Hamilton; 13 grandchildren, 1 brother, 5 half-brothers, 1 sister and 3 half-sisters.

First Baptist Church
Arnprior, Ontario
LOREN WEBER, Pastor

MR. JOHN FISCHER of Herreid, South Dakota

John Fischer was born on August 3, 1883, in South Russia. He came to America with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Michael Fischer in 1886 and briefly settled at Bridgewater, S. D. In 1888 he came to the Eureka, S. D., home area with his parents where they homesteaded. John Fischer was united in marriage to Magdalena Hirsch of Java, S. D., at Eureka on March 11, 1906. The Lord blessed this union with five sons and five daughters. In 1906 they homesteaded near Artas, S. D., where they farmed until 1921. They moved to a farm south of Herreid, S. D., where they lived until 1942 and retired in Herreid. Since November 1966, they made their home in the Home For The Aging in Eureka.

Brother Fischer accepted Christ as his personal Savior in 1908, was baptized (by immersion that same year) by Rev. A. Herlinger (in Spring Creek near Artas) and became a member of the Artas Baptist Church there. Mr. Fischer has remained a faithful member through the years and for a time served as trustee. Brother Fischer was called to his heavenly home, after a lingering illness, on March 28, 1966, at the Eureka Hospital where he had been a patient for just a few days.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Michael and Catherina Fischer; two brothers: Michael and Jacob; three sisters: Mrs. John (Carolina) Lindaman, Mrs. Gottfried (Rosina) Grenz, Mrs. Peter (Elizabeth) Schrink; and one son: Walter R.

He is survived by his wife: Magdalena; four sons: Emil E. of Eureka, Rev. Arthur J. of Sheboygan, Wisc., Henry P. and Edwin J. both of Herreid; five daughters: Mrs. Jake (Martha) Rueb, Mrs. Alvin (Ida) Bauer, and Mrs. John (Ella) Moulton of Northridge, Calif. Mrs. Otto (Lorraine) Bauer of Herreid and Mrs. Clyde (Violet) Huber of Mobridge, S. D.; one brother: Reinhold of Eureka; one sister: Mrs. Gottlieb (Magdalena) Lindaman of Eureka; 34 grandchildren and 46 great grandchildren.

Herreid Baptist Church
Herreid, South Dakota
IVER WALKER, Pastor

NURSE WANTED

A Christian licensed practical nurse is wanted for night duties at the North American Baptist Home for the Aged in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Live in.

North American Baptist Home
7023 Rising Sun Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa.
Rudolph E. Jahn, Secretary

NO NIBBLES?

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But certainly you can say, "Well, you know, I think I know how I would feel if it weren't for something that took place in my life which completely changed my outlook."

At this point, incidentally, let's be very careful that those of us who have had the privilege of being raised in Christian backgrounds do not get an inferiority complex because we do not have a dramatic testimony. Paul's testimony really had grip. He had something that was dramatic. Timothy, however, heard the Word of God from his mother and his grandmother and probably as a child trusted the Lord. We do not need a dramatic swing to be able to talk about what the Lord means to us today if we really know Him.

Be alert to questions people ask. I do a lot of traveling and sometimes people say to me, "What do you do?" I used to say, "I am a staff member of the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship." And almost invariably the reaction was, "Oh, Can I borrow your paper?" And I'd think to myself, "What's the matter?" Finally somebody suggested to me that people aren't interested in technical answers; they are interested in descriptive answers. So now when people ask me that question I say, "I talk to university students about how Jesus Christ is relevant to life in the twentieth century." And almost invariably people brighten and say, "Boy, that sounds interesting."

DRAW THE NET

There is a third lesson to be learned from this figure of speech, "fishers of men." There has to be a drawing of the net. The reason some of us have not introduced a person to the Savior is we have never popped the question. Maybe we have gotten to know people. Maybe we have built a bridge of friendship. But we have never come to the point of saying, "Are you or aren't you?"

I used to say to people, "Are you a Christian?" I found that was a dead end street, because many times they would say "Yes" when I knew very well from the New Testament that they weren't. But you can't very well say, "Well, friend, you are all wrong for the following reasons and I'll show you why." Then Leigh Samuel of Great Britain gave me a series of questions he used on his university missions that I have found worth their weight in gold. They have gotten me right on target without the slightest embarrassment. I commend them to you as a way in which you can get to the crucial issue of one's personal relationship to Christ without offense. Again, it is a series of questions to be used after there has been some conversation about the gospel and the Lord Jesus.

STILL ON THE WAY?

The first is, "Well, have you ever personally trusted Christ? Or are you

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION FROM THE LEUSCHNERS

For the many cards and prayers of God's people during the recent hospitalization and illness of Dr. Martin L. Leuschner, we wish to express our heartfelt thanks. We feel that God is answering prayer as he gives grace for the needs of every day. Your continued prayers will be heartily appreciated.

Dr. and Mrs. Martin L. Leuschner

still on the way?"

To say, "Have you ever personally trusted Christ?" defines it sufficiently that the person who does not know what you mean will usually say, "What do you mean by that?" This is the opening you are looking for and you explain what you mean.

But more often people will say to me, "That is exactly how you describe me. I am still on the way." And then I say to them, "That is interesting. How far along the way are you?" Without the slightest embarrassment they will tell me exactly where they are in their thinking. They may not even believe that the Lord Jesus Christ lived. They may believe he was merely a great philosopher and teacher. Or it may be they know the gospel better than you and I do and their problem is not lack of information but simply not responding to the information they have. In either case, we can know exactly where they are in their thinking and adapt ourselves to meet the particular need.

The third question is, "Would you like to become a real Christian now and be sure?"

What is the next step in faith and obedience for you in the area of evangelism? Is it to pop the question to somebody whom you already know? Is it to throw out the net with some people you have gotten to know casually? Or is it perhaps to begin to go where some of the fish are and to begin to build a friendship with someone of your circle of acquaintances?

Whatever it is, I hope that what the Lord says to you today you will do with a heart that is responsive and obedient, in love for Christ and for others.

(Reprinted by permission of *Moody Monthly*. The material in this article appears in Mr. Little's book, *HOW TO GIVE AWAY YOUR FAITH*, recently released by Inter-Varsity Press (\$3.50).

BIBLE BOOK OF THE MONTH

Additional Bible Readings for each day announced in "Moments With God."

JUNE

Hebrews 1-13; Daniel 1-12;
Lamentations 1-5

JULY

Isaiah 22-53

BETTER LEADERSHIP

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dle major responsibilities in these places later;

j.) Holding monthly workers' conferences with professional resource persons as speakers, reports on Christian education readings, audio-visual presentations and various groups meeting to solve any problems and to plan for improvement.

k.) Taking advantage of the Christian education activities planned by the association or conference Committee on Christian Education by encouraging persons from your church to attend and report back to your monthly workers' conferences.

ENLISTING WORKERS

Each organized group needs to inform the Leadership Education Committee at least five months before a vacancy occurs, when possible, so the committee can enlist, challenge and recommend to the Board of Christian Education the right person for the right job. This benefits the volunteer worker for he then has time to read, observe, and take leadership education courses to prepare himself more adequately for his position. This also helps to avoid friction among different organizations within the church for people to fill the various vacancies.

The committee also is responsible for knowing the denominational program of leadership education, using the new Leadership Education Curriculum available; encouraging persons to work toward Leadership Education Certificates, as well as providing the required courses for these; making an annual evaluation of the leadership education program of your church and reports to the Board of Christian Education; observing a Sunday with special messages on Christian Education and recognition to leaders who have earned certificates and given special service; promoting and personally inviting people to attend Leadership Education Courses sponsored by your church and conference.

Staff members of the Department of Christian Education are available as teachers of Leadership Education Schools in your church or to meet with your workers to discuss their needs and seek to help them solve various problems.

A good leadership education program needs to include more than reading and talking about better ways of doing things. Actual experience in the task is vital. The workers must continually gain new understandings of the Bible and also new ways of communicating these insights.

GOD'S WORD IN A NEW AGE

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precht, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin H. Marklein, Rev. Daniel Kolke and Rev. Ruben Kern, our Eastern District Secretary. Dr. Frank H. Woyke, our Executive Secretary, and some others were also in attendance.