

# Zion's Advocate

"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day,  
for they shall have the gift and the power of the Holy Ghost;" 1 Nephi 3:187

Vol. 60

Independence, Missouri, January, 1983

No. 1

## Each Day

For every day that cometh, Lord,  
With every thought and every word  
Give to this heart with longing stirred  
Patience I pray.

Give of thy grace to help to bear  
The trials, perils, toils, and care;  
The woes of others help me share;  
Give grace always.

Lord, all my strength is but as naught;  
My soul of thee would still be taught;  
O, make me thine in word and thought,  
My God I pray!

In health or sickness still, my God,  
Help me to bow beneath the rod;  
Still in the path that thou hast trod  
Keep me each day.

O lead and guide me still aright,  
Led by thy wisdom, power, and might;  
With joy I'll hail life's darkening night  
After the day.

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ZION'S ADVOCATE (USPS 699-300)

Official publication of The Church of Christ  
Headquarters on the Temple Lot, 200 S. River Blvd.  
Independence, Missouri 64051-0472  
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PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CHURCH OF CHRIST  
(Temple Lot) 200 S. River Blvd., P. O. Box 472, Independence,  
Missouri 64051-0472

Second Class Postage Paid at Independence, Missouri

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Subscription rates to members paid from general funds. In bundles of twelve or more for missionary purposes, \$2.00. Non-member rates one year \$4.00. Canadian and all foreign rates, \$4.50.

Send all donations for the Temple Fund, the Storehouse, Consecrations, Tithes, Offerings, and Subscriptions for The Advocate to:

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## ORIGINAL ARTICLES

All individual articles published in this paper are opinions of the author and do not necessarily reflect the teachings of the Church or the opinions of the Editorial Staff.

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## Editorial . . .

### ALL THINGS COMMON - EQUALITY?

Malachi 2:10, "Have we not all one Father? Hath not one God created us? . . ."

Sometimes we sing a song, "This is My Father's World," and so it is. "For every beast of the forest is mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains; and the wild beasts of the field are mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell thee; for the world is mine and the fulness thereof." Ps. 50:10-12, "The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the Lord of Hosts." Haggai 2:8.

Strange is it not that we lay claim to these things as belonging to us? Everything is God's, He made it all and in abundance, that were that abundance shared as He intended, no one would need be in want.

George MacDonald saw Jesus as acutely pained over his brother's (the human family) misuse of his Father's provisions; each grabbing for themselves and theirs as far as possible more than their share of these things given of the heavenly Father for the blessing and well-being of the whole family of creation. Jesus himself never laid claim to any of it personally, and who had more right than he?" "All things that the Father hath are mine: . . ." John 16:15.

Surely God has a will, and a way, as to how his children should govern themselves in the handling and

use and sharing of his things. He being a just Father, no respecter of persons; loving each one of his created children equally with every other, he cannot possibly be happy with the chaos that his children have made regarding what they call possession of his things. World wide, how should he approve that one sixth of the world population should consume one-half of the world's output of commodity? as reported in 'A Look at the World' by Voice of Freedom. Nation wide, How can he consent that some should have accumulated from the resources of this land, blessed above all other lands, such wealth that they could not possibly use it in several life times while others go to bed hungry and cold? Church wise? Take time to think about it. Family wise, which of us would account as a good parent one who would heap indulgences upon one child and deprive or neglect another or who would accept that one child should do so to another? We wouldn't and God is ever so much more wise and just, fair and loving than we can expect of an earthly parent except they come to have the 'mind of Christ' in them.

God does have a will and a way for his children to handle these matters. "For behold the beasts of the field, and the fowls of the air, and that which cometh of the earth, is ordained for the use of man, for food and for raiment, and that he might have an abundance, but it is not given that one man should possess that

which is above another; Wherefore the world lieth in sin; . . . " Book of Commandments 52:19-20. If the case be so in the world what about within the Church? This seems to state very pithily God's will concerning the use of the things that belong to him.

Where then do we find his way that his will can be carried out? We have in the Bible and in the Book of Mormon the testimony of history that the followers of Jesus instigated a condition among themselves by which they shared their resources among themselves, which is called, "All Things Common., The details are not given and understandably so because in each case they had to be that which would be within the limits of the respective governments under which they lived. The peoples in the Book of Mormon following Christ's visit here were a law unto themselves. In Jerusalem and environs they were under some Jewish rule as well as Roman. Our situation is different than either and so the details of neither would apply or fit us. The rules for now must apply to now for God has said, "Let no man break the laws of the land, for he that keepeth the laws of God, hath no need to break the laws of the land." Book of Commandments 59:25. So if we are to find out our 'how' we must look for it in what God has spoken to the peoples of this day, of this land, under the government of this land.

Bible students have long speculated on the meaning of this term, All Things Common, apparently basically concluding that it interprets to communal ownership and use of everything; out of which has grown some of the most unjust doctrines, practices and governments; possibly being one instance where the false teachers and heresies have made the way of truth to become evilly spoken of. (2 Peter 2:1-2). There is no evil greater than truth perverted; in that in it is the greatest power of deception.

There is a truth and a good one in the Lord's meaning of the term and we his professed disciples need to find it. For whatever it is, that is what he wants and expects of us, and the lack of it points to a lack in us as being his true followers, yet. Remember for us as for the rich young man who came to Christ, the question is, "What lack we yet?"

The New Testament Church of the Bible, called naught that they possessed their own. (Acts 4:32). Why? Because it belonged to every other Christian or because it belonged to God? King Benjamin taught his people that they should, "Render unto him (God) all that you have and are, . . ." following with the discourse on the handling of that portion of God's things that come into our hands, with which we are all so familiar. (Mosiah chapters 1-4). The New Testament Church, Book of Mormon, "And it came to pass that they did do all things, even as Jesus had commanded them." (3 Nephi 12:12). This followed the statement in verse 11, that they had 'all things common' among

them, which condition continued for 200 years. (4 Nephi chapter 1). Aren't these conditions to live under, worth finding the way to?

That which has been spoken to the people of the day of the restoration calls for a consecration of all that one has unto the Lord. Does that echo of King Benjamin's teaching? The language of the commandment reads, "If thou lovest me," notice the specification of who it is that he wants to do this, of who it is that will do it, "thou shalt serve me and keep all my commandments; and behold, thou shalt consecrate all thy properties, that which thou hast unto me," to whom? "with a covenant and a deed which cannot be broken:" according to the laws of the land? "and they shall be laid before the bishop of my church, and two of the elders, such as he shall appoint and set apart for that purpose." Does this begin to tell us the how?

And further, "And it shall come to pass, that the bishop of my church, after that he has received the properties of my church, that it cannot be taken from the church, he shall appoint every man a steward over his own property, or that which he has received, inasmuch as is sufficient for himself and family." Does this sound contradictory, that it is now to the church and not to God? Do we or do we not believe this is his church? Where would he have a document, legal according to the laws of the land, held, if not by his church?

To continue, "And the residue shall be kept to administer to him who has not, that every man may receive according as he stands in need: And the residue shall be kept in my storehouse to administer to the poor and needy, as shall be appointed by the elders of the church and the Bishop; and for the purpose of purchasing lands, and the building up of the New Jerusalem, . . ." (Book of Commandments 44:26-29). Is this not the very condition that what the New Testament Churches did, brought about? all except the building of the New Jerusalem, which is for our day. And how do we expect to be able to bring that about if we receive no directions concerning how to do it, or refuse to follow those given?

Consider the position of a steward; "one who is intrusted with the management of that which belongs to another." We have seen that all belong to the Lord and we can never be anything but a steward over what we claim as ours whether we acknowledge that stewardship or not. The usual interpretation of 'all things common' that everyone has equal claim upon and access to everything, precludes stewardship. No one can have responsibility for something that everyone has an equal right to and responsibility for.

"But the laborer in ZION shall labor for Zion; for if they labor for money, they shall perish." (2 Nephi 11:109), translated in my thinking means one must

labor for the well-being of all and not for indulgence of self. This is the commandment, "Thou shalt stand in the place of thy stewardship: Thou shalt not take thy brother's garment; thou shalt pay for that which thou shalt receive of thy brother. And if thou obtainest more than that which would be for thy support, thou shalt give it into my storehouse, that all things may be done according to that which I have spoken." (Book of Commandments 44:40-42). Incentive rises from one of two origins, the carnal love of self, or love of God in which the neighbor is loved equally with thyself. It is really all so simple when selfish motivations are removed.

And yet there lingers a fear, the fear of the burden of the idler. And it is written "Thou shalt not be idle; for he that is idle shall not eat the bread, nor wear the garment of the laborer." Where are the safeguards? Where is the guarantee that we will not be imposed upon? There is none; at least for the beginning. But Jesus has already told us how we are to meet and react to imposition, Matthew 5:41, and when we rise to living in the spirit of that we have no problem. However the questions continue, why is it not written how the problem of the idler shall be handled? Is it not that there is no blanket cause and so there can be no blanket answer either? The solutions will be as varied as the causes and needs be, perhaps can only be revealed to such as are appointed and anointed to make judgments and bring about corrections. Is it not blessed that our loving God should thus deal with each erring child whatever that erring may be?

Where then is the assurance that we will not by compliance to this requirement be left desolate? There is only one, His word. He has promised, "And I will come near to you to judgment: and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of Hosts. For I

am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. Even from the days of your fathers ye have gone away from my ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord of Hosts. But ye said, wherein shall we return? Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed Thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of Hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightful land, saith the Lord of Hosts." (Malachi 3:5-12). What a glorious promise and whose word can be trusted more than that of the Lord of Hosts? But to claim that promise we have to step out on faith and trust into obedience. Only after and on obedience comes the fulfillment.

Our management of our stewardship is to provide our just wants and needs. What are they? What does one measure one's wants and needs by to tell if they are just? A beautiful standard is given by a man of the surname of Gore, that one not seek for one's self more than can be reasonably expected that all should, can and will have. How utterly delightfully simple, remembering that distinction is not always a factor of unequalness. How should any child of God want that which another of his children cannot have? or that which means another of his children must do without? To want for self regardless of others is the will and way and mind of man, and it should become anathema to the will and way and mind of the child of God in whom dwells the Mind and Spirit of Jesus.

A. S.

## THE WORTH OF THE WIND

Botanists report that trees need the winds of March to flex their branches and trunks. The sap is drawn up because of the bluster of the wind, and the budding leaves are nourished.

You and I are like the trees. We need the storms to strengthen us!

A blustery period in our lives is often a prelude to a spring of fruitbearing and fortune.

Think of Joseph. The storm of his imprisonment was the prelude to his success and effectiveness. Had

he not been a prisoner, he would not have become the prime minister.

Think of David. Had his heart not been wrung by the storms of life, his Psalms would not be sung in our storms of life.

Look to the Lord, and He will enable you to turn your trials into triumphs, your setbacks into successes, and the bluster into blessings.

Bible Friend in  
Quiet Echoes

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven; hallowed be thy name -**

Father there is nothing in my finite understanding of the meaning of these words. How does that created in any way hallow Him who is it's creator? In it's making it's boundaries are cast - does rising to it's highest possibility speak the desired renown to it's author? Does gratitude for it's existence speak honor? Does praise of His expertise render glory? How does a thing that is nought glorify that which is all? It is not that the soul would not, but in the awesome beholding of Your Reality one finds himself bereft of ought to enhance the majesty which is You. Or do the words speak a prayer that You make your name hallowed to one's own soul and ever more clear and bright and rich to all? Forgive the questions, Father, one sees through a glass darkly; the soul reaches for comprehension, for light, for a moment of revealed truth that henceforth praise be a living attribute and prayer an experience in conscious fellowship with the divine.

**Thy Kingdom come thy will be done on earth as it in heaven;**

Your power and love, alone, Father, can change earth into what heaven is. You alone can subdue the contrariness of rebel human hearts, winning them to surrender and to the embracing of all that is of your purposing. The soul knows itself naked to your sight, no cloak for it's real condition. Heaven must begin through your ministry within the self, it is yours both to will and to do. Except you transform the will of the "me" of each to harmonize with your will, even heaven would not be heavenly. How much of the cherished 'me' of each of your creatures must become undone in order that the 'me' of your purpose and creating might emerge? How much pain and distress in the process? How far, Father, is this heart from being able to truly pray that thy will be done, in all that I am, with all that I presume to possess, all - all given that thy will and kingdom might reign sovereign over and upon all the earth?

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

Mortality, to survive, must needs have bread, Father. Give what is necessary but measure it to the weakness of your creature lest abundance satiate and the soul exhalt itself in a deceived sense of it's own merit, becoming innured to the plight of less fortunate, indifferent to the presence of hunger among it's fellows, forgetful that the cattle upon a thousand hills are still yours whoever lays claim to them; lest the blessing of affluence become a stumbling block to selfishness, a circumstance for sinning. Oh that faith should be sufficient to simply receive our bread daily as you gave oil and meal to she who fed her last to Elijah, that we too might learn the delight of being kept by the Lord.

But this pertains only to the need of the flesh, and many there are who already have more than can be righteously handled; while yet we have great need of the bread without which the soul must shrivel and die. Grant then, Father, I pray, the 'living bread' daily, to that extent that any one of your creatures hunger and thirst after it, and seek it with all their hearts. Grant this too as is sufficient to growth in righteousness and purity unto perfection, and protect lest any be lifted up to self-glorying for that which comes of thee alone. Teach us to be meek and lowly, which is the humbleness portrayed by Jesus.

**And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

That sort of cuts our words right out of our mouths, Father. What use is there to go on praying until we actually confront and conquer that hurdle? We have no hope other than of your forgiveness of our sinning. Is it truly as Jesus said, that only as we forgive others we can be forgiven? that we cannot be free of our sin until we free of any accusation of fault or offence all toward whom we have felt any shade of antagonism, whom we have thought to have wronged us in any way, presenting them to you for blessing blameless and unjudged in our eyes? Is our sin the same as that of the elder brother who could not accept the return of the prodigal? In finding it difficult to forgive is it because we have already judged our brother's sin as so far worse than our own? Teach us, oh Father, what true forgiving is, to the depths of Jesus' forgiving in that he put himself in our place, being accounted guilty in our stead and suffering that which was our due. Teach us so to love and so to forgive that we might yet learn what true repentance is.

**Lead us not into temptation;**

One version says, suffer us not to be lead, and surely this is more accurate for your scriptures tell us that you tempt no man to do evil. Save us from becoming victims of our baser selves with it's appetites and desires which tend to that which is not of righteousness; save us from those influences and deceptions of that evil one who is the adversary of all that is good and true and lovely.

**And deliver us from evil;**

Oh yes, Father deliver us from all that is evil whether in the world about us or the evil that is inherent within as a result of our falling from grace into the carnality and enmity of the human nature that is ours. Save us, oh Father, from that prison which is ourself, freeing us to become that which you intended we should be when in the beginning you created us for thine ownself; so transform us that we can thus pray not for our own sake but truly for your sake out of love for thee unto honor and glory to thee.

For thine is the kingdom and the honor and glory, forever;

Thou hast made Jesus, king over thy kingdom; may his reign become a reality over all which thou hast created, not only in part but the whole for it is not your will that any should perish but that all should come to eternal life; and surely the heart can desire and ask that which you have revealed as being of your own will, and wait in hopeful expectation of the same, knowing that Jesus came and shed his blood that it might be so, even the redemption of our own unworthy souls. And by this grace he gave us the privilege to ask all this as in the authority of his own name, that name which is above all other names in heaven and earth, even Jesus the Christ.

So be it.

## ARE WE HUNGERING AND THIRSTING AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS?

For several weeks the thought hungering and thirsting after righteousness kept coming to me. At all times of the day or night this phrase would come to mind.

I was getting ready to retire one night when I was struck with the same thought and decided to look up the meaning of hunger and thirst in the dictionary. I started to write the definitions down on paper when the following thoughts came. For the next hour I wrote as fast as I could. As soon as I would finish one line, new thoughts and scriptures would follow.

I know all these things pertained to my life and I wanted to share it with you.

Almost daily many of us go to the Lord in prayer with a list of needs and wants. We ask for watchcare, and for health. As a church we cry unto Him for miracles, healings, and callings to fill vacancies in the ministry. Does it seem that God is not listening? Does it seem He doesn't hear? Perhaps it is only as the scripture says "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled." Matthew 5:16

Are we hungering? Are we thirsting? According to the dictionary hungering means, 1) A desire or need for food. 2) Any strong desire or craving. 3) Eagerly craving. Putting this in a spiritual sense, are we eagerly craving or seeking the Lord's intervention in our lives? Do we have a strong desire for Him to change us to the kind of people we should be, or are we only craving the blessings without the change.

The definition of thirsting is 1) Affected with thirst 2) Parched. 3) Eagerly desirous. 4) Any longing or craving. Are we going to go so long without the miracles

we so desire that we become parched? Is this the only way? Perhaps the only way for us to realize the necessity of change in ourselves is to go without. Then we might truly know the meaning of hunger and thirst.

One possible solution is to evaluate our daily lives. Is God first? Do we begin our day striving to serve Him, or do we turn to Him only at bedtime, when we ask forgiveness for our mistakes of the day? Do we turn to Him with every care, but forget our praise and thanks for the answers to our prayers? Do we attend services of worship when we're not too tired, or if nothing is on television? If we've had a hard day is it too hard to go to church, but not so hard to visit with friends? Do we devote even one tenth of the time to studying God's Word as we do to watching television?

Perhaps you don't watch television, but have you replaced it with daily prayer and meditation, or have you replaced it with novels, sewing, painting, shopping, baseball, sports etc? The list is endless. It applies to those of all ages. We've filled our lives with endless running, working, and quest for recreation. None of these things are wrong, if we put God first in our life.

We can't possibly hunger or thirst when we're full already. Our time and minds are filled with worldly pleasures and cares. He tells us over and over in different ways that if we "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matthew 6:33.

Our days are so busy we've shut God out. He wants to give us all we ask for, but we won't allow it. We haven't obeyed the simplest commands as He listed them one by one in the Sermon on the mount.

Must we become parched? Must we be deprived completely of all blessings in order to learn what hunger and thirst really are?

A song in our hymnal says it all. There shall be showers of blessings, if we but trust and obey; there shall be seasons refreshing, if we let God have His way.

Are you willing to let God have his way? The change must be in us, each individual. God hasn't left us. We've left Him. We serve Him parttime. Do we have men who eagerly say "Hear am I, send me?" Do our women stand behind them? Are we willing to sacrifice for His work, if He asks?

We must be willing, if we're to be ready for all He has prepared for us. Please, let's seek not for what He can give us, but for what we can give Him.

Melissa McGhee

"A man that flattereth his neighbour spreadeth a net for his feet." (Proverbs 29:5)

## THOUGHTS ON REVELATION 4 thru 11

by

Harvey E. Seibel

In Revelation 4 we have the account of John caught up into heaven where he begins to witness a series of events which were to have their beginning in his day and continuing on to the millenium. In the fifth chapter the Father is shown sitting upon the throne holding a book sealed with seven seals. And out of the whole of mankind, only the Son of God was found worthy to unloose the seals of the book.

The first three of these describe events which were fulfilled prior to the time of the papal persecution which is, itself, covered in the fourth seal.

Those interested in the specific details of their fulfillment may write the author. Research on these events was done by my Father, Elder M. Harvey Seibel.

The fifth seal is current with our day and includes the great tribulation mentioned in Matthew 24 and Luke 21. The opening of the sixth seal ends the great tribulation, marking the return of Christ, and ushers in the day of the Lord. These events will be dramatically signaled by tremendous signs in the sun, moon and stars. Those then (Israel) who are found worthy to escape the wrath of God will be sealed in their foreheads.

The seventh seal encompasses the wrath of God itself and is to be poured out upon the earth through the seven angels with their trumpets. The last three are described as three woes. It is during the time of the sixth, which is the second woe, that an immense army 200 million strong, will slay the third part of men. This may be equivalent to the sixth of the seven last plagues of Revelation 16. If so, this is when the battle of Armageddon will be fought. It is also during this time that the two witnesses prophesy in Jerusalem. This may seem difficult to believe yet nevertheless the second woe will end when the two witnesses complete their earthly mission. Then will come the sounding of the seventh angel, the kingdoms of this world becoming the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ.

An observation may be justified here after having given this brief summary of chapters 4 through 11 of Revelation.

We know that the coming of the king of the north (also referred to as Gog) is an event which is associated with the opening of the sixth seal and the signs in the heavens. If the sixth angel of the seventh seal is equivalent to the sixth plague of Revelation 16, then two things become apparent. The Russian invasion is not the battle of Armageddon, for it begins in the 5th seal and ends with the opening of the 6th, while the battle

of Armageddon is fought during the seventh seal. In other words, the king of the north is to come just prior to the Lord's return while the kings of the east will come following his return. Thus this mightiest of all conflicts will be waged during the great day of God.

The sixth trumpet of the seventh seal portrays an army numbering 200 million. The sixth plague speaks of preparing the way of the kings of the east and the gathering of the whole world with the kings of the earth to the battle of the great day of God. These terrible future conflicts are separated only by a relatively brief interval, the one at the conclusion of the great tribulation and the other during the day of wrath.

What then is our hope in all this to come? "And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood and fire, and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call." (Joel 2:30-32).

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## FEED MY SHEEP

You love Jesus and you want to carry out his will, but wonder what you can do. You're not alone. Just what does he want of you? "Feed my Sheep" he told Simon Peter. (John 21:15-17) You are told by the Elders that this means to spread the gospel. This takes a little study of his word and then when the opportunity presents itself you pass it on. But, still you feel this is not really helping. Although you pay your tithing, still the feeling that you are not a part of the Shepherd's helpers stays with you.

Actually we are all a part of those helpers. The tool that Jesus uses is mankind. Right now the Lord has no need of another Moses or Isaiah. What he needs at this time is numerous smaller tools like spoons at a meal of soup. Each one has an important roll to play, but one is not more noticed than the other.

When we tell someone about Christ's work and love and they won't believe and accept, we tend to feel that we have failed; but, we tried, we delivered, we are useful to the Lord. Now the person must accept in his own heart.

The spoon carries the food to the mouth; if the mouth won't open and accept, the spoon is not at fault. The spoon feels compassion for the soul that couldn't be fed.

Sharon Maxwell

# CROSS ROADS

## GOING TO CHURCH

Going to church used to be a real drag to me. I often wondered why my parents bothered to go—no one made them go as they made me. I didn't understand church because I didn't understand God.

I have regularly attended several different churches in my life and they were very boring, even the Temple Lot. (I have a two-year unbroken record of sleeping through sermons.) I knew that there was a God and that He had a Son who took away the sins of all people who believed in Him. But for the life of me, I couldn't figure out why I had to go back to church every Sunday and hear about it again. The story of God and Jesus was like a good but slow-moving book. But the characters in the book were not real to me. I'll bet lots of people have this problem. They don't realize that God is real, as real as the people around them. Without real belief, any religious institution becomes a ritual, and a ritual cannot inspire true interest (excitement) any more than it can deliver men from their sins.

And so I passed the first twenty-odd years of my life asleep in the light. But when I realized that God is real, my life changed. I woke up. Going to church has become a joy. I find myself listening to other people's prayers and saying "Yes, Lord." When I can't go to church for some reason I am sad. I love everyone I see and they help me so much just by being there and smiling to me. I realize now that the sermons are not from men but from God. Believing in God has opened my eyes to the blessing of church, for church is a haven for those seeking God; a place where I can meet with others who are serious about loving God.

G. Jesse Adams

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## THE ALTERNATIVE

We hear about alternatives all the time. Some are for the better, others for the worse, and some seemingly make no difference. However the alternative I'm thinking about is just one aspect of a much larger picture. The whole picture being a life that follows Christ's and one aspect of this it attending YPCL.

There are many things I could be doing or places I could go, but none offer the opportunity of the fellowship of meeting with others of like faith. A place where we can have fun together, or study together, or talk to each other of problems we may have. I am glad I have the alternative of meeting with the YPCL.

Larry Sarratt

## THE WATERED LILIES

The Master stood in His garden,  
Among the lilies fair,  
Which His own right hand had planted,  
And trained with tenderest care.  
He looked at their snowy blossoms,  
And marked with observant eye,  
That the flowers were sadly drooping  
For their leaves were parched and dry.  
"My lilies need to be watered,"  
The Heavenly Master said;  
"Wherein shall I draw it for them,  
And raise each drooping head?"  
Close to His feet on the pathway,  
Empty and frail, and small,  
An earthen vessel was lying,  
Which seemed no use at all;  
But the Master saw, and raised it  
From the dust in which it lay,  
And smiled, as He gently whispered,  
"This shall do my work today:  
"It is but an earthen vessel,  
But it lay so close to Me;  
It is small, but it is empty—  
That is all it needs to be."  
So to the fountain He took it,  
And filled it full to the brim;  
How glad was the earthen vessel  
To be of some use to Him!  
He poured forth the Living water  
Over His lilies fair,  
Until the vessel was empty,  
And again He filled it there.  
He watered the drooping lilies  
Until they revived again;  
And the Master saw with pleasure  
That His labor had not been in vain.  
His own hand had drawn the water  
Which refreshed the thirsty flowers;  
But He used the earthen vessel  
To convey the living showers.  
And to itself it whispered,  
As He laid it aside once more,  
"Still will I lie in His pathway,  
Just where I did before."  
"Close would I keep to the Master,  
Empty would I remain,  
And perhaps someday He may use me  
To water His flowers again."

Author: Unknown

Contributed by—George Adams

## MOM'S THREE COMMANDMENTS!

Growing up in the church, I remember when I sat in meetings as a child. I always had to sit by my mom and behave myself. She always had rules I had to follow. I would sit and pout most of the service, and when it was through my Mom would say, "Mike, you have to set a good example for the younger kids coming up in the church."

Believe it or not, at the ripe old age of 22, I still adhere to these rules. I'd like to share them with the young people of the church, in hopes they will pass them on to their kids when they get older.

#1. I was never allowed to get up and leave during a service. I always had to use the facilities before church started.

I was reminded that getting up in the middle of the service **distracts** those around me. Not to mention the person preaching. He may feel his service not quite up to par. It also may disrupt the spirit of God prevailing over the meeting.

#2. When a prayer meeting or prayer was in progress, I was never allowed to talk, or whisper. It was rude and very impolite to those who wish to offer their prayers in silence.

#3. Last but not least is—I was never allowed to make fun of another person's testimony or prayer. It could make them feel embarrassed and turn away from the church. I was always taught to inform someone that their testimony was nice. Especially the younger people.

I thank my mom for these 3 important rules. I hope to keep them and pass them on to others, and someday, my children. Thanks Mom, for these 3 important rules.

Mikeal G. Payne

## SHARING A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We would like to share something very special with you. Last Christmas Eve morning (1981), Gerry woke up with many thoughts in his mind. He felt he wanted to write them and they came in the form of a letter. At the time I was pregnan with Amy. We hope it can be a blessing to you as it was to us.

Gerry and Cindy Case

Merry Christmas, Cindy, Gerry and ?

Always remember the significance of three. This year you will take on the most awesome and rewarding responsibility of your lives, the shaping of a new life. Never endeavor to take this responsibility unto

yourselves. It will require the help of your three heavenly guiders, God the Father, His Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost.

God the Father is the power, the one watcher and helper over all without beginning or end, to whom we pray. He always care very much and is able to help. It is through His love for mankind that He sent His Son.

The Holy Ghost is that abiding comforter that brings understanding and discernment to your minds at the time you need it. There will be so many very big questions that will flow from this new tiny heart; you will be amazed. This Holy Ghost will also help you know when to reach out to your child, those times when this growing child needs you so badly but for some reason is unable to ask. Never fail to listen to that "still, small voice." You need its guidance.

Finally, and especially in mind this time of year, is the Son of God, Jesus Christ. Remember his birth. Study and learn from His life, His example. You will find this in the scriptures.

Read to your child. The understanding and comprehension of a child is more than you know. In the name of Jesus, you should always pray to the Father together, that the warmth, comfort and guidance of the Holy Ghost will surround each of you. Teach your child. One day you will hear the reverent words of a tiny prayer coming from that pure heart bowed beside its bed at night and you will truly realize what the Lord meant when He said you must become as a little child. You will also realize that with the help of your Heavenly Father you are beginning to give that gift that is above all to your child, a new life in service to God.

You are beginning to know the gift of God's Son. Cherish it.

Love,  
The Spirit of Christmas

### RICHES

By A. Janicke

I have many riches untold;  
But they are not from silver or gold.  
I have a mind of clarity;  
A larder not of disparity.

Clothes on my back;  
A bed do I not lack.  
But most of all, I have Thee, O God;  
To guide the Path I daily trod

"Scornful men bring a city into a snare: but wise men turn away wrath." (Proverbs 29:8)

## CHURCH OF CHRIST at Ava

The big news among the Ava group during October and November is the purchase of a house for a meeting place. The Ava zoning board has met and granted a variance so that this house in a residential area can be used for a church building. In December the city council meets to give final approval. The renters have agreed to move during December, and we can then start working on remodeling.

There were several visitors at Ava on the first Sunday in October: Brother and Sister K. J. Smith, June Sarratt, Amy Schrader, and the Wheelers. Brothers K. J. and Arthur Smith were in charge of the Sacrament service that Sunday.

On the second Sunday Gene and Bernice Gould and Vince and Cathy LaToma and boys were down. Brother Gene Gould was the preacher that Sunday. "I will give unto the children of men line upon line, precept upon precept. And when they shall have received this which is expedient that they should have first, to try their faith: And if it shall so be that they shall believe these things, then shall the greater things be made manifest unto them. It is given unto many to know the mysteries of God . . . according to the heed and diligence which they give unto Him."

Brother Tony Grzincic was the preacher the third Sunday of October. Harken unto the spirit which teacheth a man to pray. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater . . . that ye may know. We wrestle against principalities and powers and spiritual wickedness. Put on the whole armour of God.

There was no meeting at Ava on the 25th in hopes that many could go to the Rally at Collins.

Brother Arthur Smith was in charge of the Sacrament service in November and took his reading from Mor. 7:15, on discernment and faith.

Brother Arthur also brought the lesson the second Sunday, using Rom. 12:1-21. Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy . . . which is your reasonable service. We are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. When something is out of harmony in your body, you get sick. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Brother Marvin Case was the preacher the third Sunday. If ye continue in my word, then ye are my disciples indeed. I am the true vine. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, no more can ye. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. Hold to the promises, lovingly, rigidly.

Death touched the Ava group again. In Yakima, Wash., little Lester Grant, baby son of Jerry and Linda Burgin died in his sleep. We've all read of the Pied Piper of Hamelin, and it seems easy to think some angel piper calls these little ones away to heaven while no one else is listening.

Sister Pam Jenkins gave up her job in Springfield and has moved to Arkansas to be nearer her husband's work.

Sister Minnie Smith and Sister Martha Bell went to the Phoenix Reunion and Sister Smith plans to spend the winter in Arizona.

Ella Engle - reporter

## OKLAHOMA NEWS

The wind continues to blow in Oklahoma and when my daughter complains of how tired she gets of the wind, I reply, "Marilyn, our prevailing winds clean the air." I can report the same about our church people in this area. We continue to meet together for Sunday worship and Wednesday night for prayer meeting. If we "Okies" get tired of the long drives, we remind ourselves, "It is good for our souls! It is a cleansing of the spirit and it especially refreshes us for the days ahead." For the opportunity we have of meeting together, we are very thankful. We need the wind just as we need worship experiences.

We celebrated Thanksgiving on November 28 with Mike and Barbara Kimball. When I left home early on this sabbath day, the countryside looked like fairyland. The trees, grass, and even the weeds were covered with ice. The sun's rays were just right, as I drove along the interstate, for as they pierced the icy covering, I praised the Lord in thanksgiving that I was privileged to view such a beautiful sight and that I was on my way to worship as I see fit.

Brother Larry Beem conducted our sacrament service. This was preceded by our Sunday School class with Superintendent Mike Kimball in charge. We are reading "The Story of the Church," by Inez Smith Davis.

It is always uplifting to be in a service conducted by Brother Larry and so it was this day. "We have reason to rejoice in that we can partake of the sacrament. Remember the covenant that we have made. We have many things to be thankful for. I pray that not one of my brothers and sisters will be lost from thy care," were some of his uplifting reminders.

On November 21, Brother Larry's sermon was his Thanksgiving sermon and everyone was reminded of our many, many blessings. After church services, everyone went to Lake Thunderbird, near Norman, for a pic-

nic. It was a gorgeous day (no wind) and as the children waded in the shallow water or threw rocks that skimmed across the water, the adults praised God for life and happiness.

On November 14, everyone traveled to Laura Mae and M. G. Elwell's new home in Edmond. Brother Frank Fann spoke the sermon. "Taking Your Troubles to the Lord" was his sermon subject. Brother Frank's inspirational sermon this holy day was very uplifting. His sermons are always strengthening to our faith.

The month of October was a busy one, too. One of these autumn Sundays, Brother Larry Beems' sermon was reported to me by Barbara Kimball. Her report reads: "We must think before we speak. Our words in haste can cause a lot of damage, like a tiny leaf that after floating down from a tree and hits the water and causes a ripple that spreads in all directions. Gossip hurts. Everything we do or say is in justification of ourselves. God is always listening, even to our private conversations. As children of God, we should remember that kindness is the oil that takes the friction out of life."

The last Sunday in October, we met at the Beem home in Norman. We were so happy to have the Mike Smith family from Independence with us. Bishop Frank Fann conducted the sacrament service and Elder Larry Beem spoke the sermon following the sacrament service. There were twenty of us gathered around the table and held hands for the prayer of thanks over the food.

May the coming of a new year be a happy and healthful one for all who read these words. When those stressful moments come your way, as they surely will, may these words of Apostle Paul comfort you: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all."

Alzada Massey, Reporter

## COLLINS LOCAL NEWS

The month of October has been busy and I believe well blessed. Brother Larry Shaw was our speaker October 10th. He drew a diagram for us to emphasize how to get from point A (here) to point B (heaven). He said we're where we are because we PUT ourselves there. Certain things (such as the word impossible) affect us. We must believe, and must know how to make that belief work for us. How we react to things tells the world what we really are. Our little "un-successes" are stepping stones. Mistakes don't make us bad, but teach us what NOT to do again. Toward the end of his sermon Larry said (in reference to the poem, "Footprints") that rather than footprints in the sand

he would like to leave a well-worn path. And you know, I think he will.

Saturday, October 16th was a day several of us had looked forward to and planned for. Brother Isaac Brockman had sent invitations to the various locals and organized a "Talent Showing" to be held at the Collins Local. People from all around came. We had songs, poems, readings, laughs, tears. We met new friends and old friends. I would list all those who attended, but I'm not sure I could get them down on paper. The Glen Gill family from Illinois, I believe, traveled the farthest to share their abundance of talents plus to have opportunity to spend time with their family, the Bruners, from Independence and also the Harris family of Cowgill, Mo. So not only was this a talent show, but a family reunion as well. Also a thing that pleased me was the attendance and participation of our friends from the Baptist and Christian Churches here in Collins. There weren't many, as several had to work, but it gave such a warm feeling to be allowed to share with them this love that "passeth understanding" and to know it was returned. All in all we had a wonderful day and plan to do it all again in the spring when the weather fairs up.

Sunday, October 17th, brought Brother Larry Beem from Oklahoma to speak to us. He said he had left all his books and notes at home and would "have to trust God a little." He built his sermon, in part, around this "trust in God." He said that we tend to trust everyone, BUT God. He said we have a great reason to hope, referring to the gospel and love of God. He said the most important thing we can give, or receive, is love. He spoke of being kind to our family and all people when he told a little story involving salesmen who were given new shoes with the letters T-O-P-S written on them. The letters meant "The Other Person's Shoes" meaning to understand the other person's feelings whether we deal with them professionally or casually. He closed by giving a paraphrase of the Hallmark Card Co. slogan: "Do you care enough to give YOUR very best?"

The following Sunday was the Collins Rally. We began with a prayer service at 9:30 A. M., followed by a sermon from Brother John Jones. His topic was: "Great preaching today and happiness." He listed the characteristics of Christ. On one of his cue cards were the essentials to happiness: Something to do, something to love, and something to hope for. The gospel of Christ gives all three. To be happy we must rely on the teachings of the master of men. Any sermon given that helps someone to become more like the master is a "great sermon." One of his closing quotes was from Brig. Gen. Carlos Romulo: "May God keep you always and may you always keep God."

After a delicious dinner Brother Larry Shaw was our speaker. He spoke on "Actions and Re-actions"

using for example men like Moses, Abraham and Paul. He also listed seven things that constitute achievers, as found in the September Reader's Digest, and likened it to Christian living.

After the sermon we all went our separate ways, having been served a portion of the Spirit and refreshed for the coming week.

Brother Oren Caviness spoke to us October 31st on the "MIGHTY little things of life." He spoke of life as precious and quoted the theme from one of the afternoon soap-operas: "As sands through an hour glass, so are the days of our lives." We can't do over any of our days, only live them as they come along. He said a smile is a mighty little thing. Science has proven that the wearing of a smile will change your outlook for the day. Like wise, is the tone of voice used. If we have a quarrelsome voice it will engender quarrels. If we have a kind and pleasant tone of voice peace will be much more likely. Sympathy and understanding is the medicine of the soul. Compliments and praise lifts your heart and builds your spirit. The mightiest of all is love - - the Christian attribute that thinks no evil. You must love yourself or you can't love anyone else.

I guess that brings us up to date for this time. May we all strive a little harder to be the people (or person) God wants us to be.

Your Reporter  
Czerna Kauffman

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## REPORT FROM FOUNDRY HILL

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope that when this report reaches you that it will find everyone in good health and without troubles and worries, that can sometime fill our lives.

Since the last time you heard from me we have had the pleasure of Brother William Sheldon and his wife, Doris, visit us. On Sunday night he delivered a sermon that I was glad to be able to hear. I hope that they will be able to visit the church again soon. On Saturday, the day before, Brother Sheldon and Brother T. W. Paschall were able to come by the shop where I work, and we were able to talk of old things and new things that have happened. I enjoyed their visit for it had been a long time since I had seen Brother Sheldon. So this time I hope he and Sister Doris won't stay away so long.

The Gills were able to be with us again, as we are always glad to have them with us to have them sing and perform their specials for us. Glen's mother, Ruth Gill, was with them, and also her sister, Myrtle Earl, from National City, California. We were glad that they

were able to be with us, and hope they will visit again soon.

Brother T. W. Paschall has been in the hospital for surgery and is at home now and doing fine. We ask for your prayers for him.

My mother, Sister Novella Cox, has also been in the hospital and with the good Lord's blessings didn't have to have surgery after all, and is at home now. Like Brother T. W. Paschall, she is slowly recovering. I ask for your prayers for her also.

On the 23rd of October we had something the church hasn't had in a long time: a gathering on a Saturday night for some gospel music. Visitors from out of town came to sing and everyone was invited to join us.

Singing for us was the Gill family, and the Bruner family. In the Gill family was, of course, Glen, Margaret, Steven and Donald, playing for us some old songs and some new ones of their own. In the Bruner family was Rodger and Martha, and their son, Dennis, and their daughters, Cynthia and Patricia, and Patricia's husband, Scott Hatcher. They are from Independence, Missouri. They sang songs that everyone loved to hear. We had many people to sing along with them so you know they were bound to be good. I also found out that Margaret Gill and Martha Bruner are sisters, so no wonder they are both great singers. Also with them was their mother, Sister Lois Harris, from Cowgill, Missouri.

We thank all these people for coming to our church to perform for us. They came a long way and we hope they will come again because we really did enjoy it. THANK YOU!

I will close this report for now. May God be with each and everyone of you until next time.

Your reporter from the Puryear, Tennessee Local Church.

Robin McBride

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## MINNEAPOLIS

Our present study of The Power of God is fascinating and rewarding! We have all witnessed many facets of the pervasive power of God in our lives. If it were not so, we would not be members of the body of Christ. Perhaps the most dramatic display of God's Power is told in the Book of Mormon in the amazing account of God "zapping" Laman and Lemuel into line by the electrical power He gave to Nephi for that purpose. We do not hope to understand completely the greatness of God's power; nor can we suppose we will exhaust our study material in the scriptures on the subject. We find the study awe-full and exciting in our

adult class, and a solid foundation for building greater faith. Without faith we are unable to find joy in our Almighty Heavenly Father, for faithlessness rejects His Power.

It is significant somehow that on Sundays we worship, we praise, we learn more about Jesus Christ and more about God's purposes for us. Then at mid-week service our study is in the scriptures to find solutions for the problems which plague us. We go to Him in prayer, and we tell of prayers answered and blessings received. It is good to know that He hears us and knows the intent of our hearts. It is a warming blanket to know that others are in prayer in numerous places at the same time. Somewhere I read, "Every evening I leave my worries with God. He's going to be up all night anyway." Times of private conversation with God are enriched by our study and prayer together. We do indeed strengthen each other.

We've heard about things being accomplished by "pulling strings." Maybe God will forgive my saying He controls all the strings! We had evidence of that recently.

Our friend, Chong Vang, a widow lady and her four teenage children (with lower rent the motivation) moved into a truly dangerous neighborhood in St. Paul. The Church family was distressed and greatly afraid for them. God held the string firmly! Our heartfelt, fervent prayers for the Vang family were answered. Very soon they became eligible for housing in a new and extremely nice apartment building in Rosemount, much less rent, and conveniently in reach of John and Nana's help. We not only study about God's magnificent power, we see it in action in numerous ways and are blessed and comforted. Chong's lovely daughters, Xe (pronounced Chay) and Yio (pronounced E-ah) attend church and choir practice regularly, mother and sons occasionally. It might not sound like a pleasant occupation to move a household of furnishing by two pickup trucks on a drizzly afternoon; but our fellows, overjoyed with the improved environment for our friends, were grateful for the opportunity of moving the family into a place where our Heavenly Father can better care for them. John and Nana who are expecting a third child very soon, are happily moved into their own upstairs, previously occupied by the Vang and Lee families. Doug and Leah Ferrier and family now are housed in the downstairs apartment.

It was a pleasure in August to have Brother Wayne Krause of Redwood Falls and his friend, Leona, meet with us. On our fifth Sunday of October it was our surprise and delight to have Brother Wayne and wife, Leona, for services and Pot Luck dinner following. We congratulate them and wish them God's blessings of much happiness. It is a three hour drive for them to church. They make it a special day for us when they come.

The late Mary Schindler's grandson, Nick Poot and wife, Doris, meet with us occasionally. We are always happy to welcome them. Business brought Warren and Mary Johnson, from Independence, Missouri to our local, but for all to brief a time. We shall miss them greatly when they leave us in January. Gordon McCann from Phoenix was here for a seminar for his company and was our guest speaker. We were also happy to welcome his friend Gary Strong.

We enjoyed Thanksgiving with Merlin and Eva Lin Eddy and sons, and rejoiced with them in their new home with their extended family, parents Merlin and Grace Eddy from Wisconsin; Eva Lin's mother, Betty Fox; brother Mike and sister, Bethany Gould and friend, Vicki Prescott from Bemidji. We missed Stephen whose work kept him at home. Local family members were Eva Lin's brother, Enoch Gould; John Gould, wife Jeanine, and Lisa; sisters, Gloria Bentson and husband, Gary, Robert, Lynnne, and Carmen; Nana Gill and husband, John, Tommy and Laura; Leah Ferrier, husband, Doug, Liza, Isaac, and Amy. Forest and I will treasure the memories of this special day, though it was our first Thanksgiving spent without any of our own family with us.

We invite your prayers for those on our prayer list. Sister Ruth Gill, has a painful injured knee, but braves the trip to church every Sunday. Neng Yeng, a young family man who has been hospitalized for surgery, is doing well, but is in need of employment. Capable cabinet maker, Doug Ferrier is in need of employment. We are thankful for Tom Maley's recovery from a virus. A special Sunday morning season of prayer was held for him and he received administration on Sunday afternoon, and is back to normal health. Our prayer list includes many at a distance who come to our attention.

By the time our report reaches you, all of the Christmas programs you are preparing will be in the past, and all of the special Christmas music will have been sung and enjoyed. We will be embarked on a journey into 1983! We extend our loving wishes and prayers for the New Year to all of Our Father's people, wherever you are and in whatever condition. May we accept the power of His love into our lives to a greater extent in the coming year.

With loving regard,  
Irene Maley, Reporter

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The tissues of the life to be  
We weave with colors all our own,  
And in the field of destiny  
We reap as we have sown.

## GOD'S ANSWER

By Mabel Drury

Much that perplexes us in our Christian experience is but the answer to our prayers.

We pray for patience and God sends tribulation; for tribulation worketh patience. (Rom. 5:3-5)

We pray for submission and God sends sufferings; for we learn obedience by the things which we suffer. (Heb. 5:8)

We pray for unselfishness and God gives us opportunities to sacrifice ourselves by thinking on the things of others, and by laying down our lives for the brethren. (Phil. 2:4; Matt. 27:12; 1 John 3:16)

We pray for victory and the things of the world swoop down upon us in a storm of temptation; for this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. (1 John 5:4)

We pray for strength and humility and some messenger of Satan torments us until we lie in the dust crying for its removal. (2 Cor. 12:7)

We pray for union with Jesus and God severs natural ties, and lets our best friends misunderstand us and seem indifferent to us: and calls on us to walk alone. (Isa. 51:2, 63:3)

We pray for love and God sends peculiar suffering and puts us with apparently unlovely people, and lets them say things which rasp the nerves and lacerate the heart, for love suffereth long and is kind, love is not impolite, love is not provoked. Love beareth, believeth, hopeth, and endureth all things. Love never fails. (1 Cor. 13:18)

We pray for likeness to Jesus and the answer is: "I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction. Can thine heart endure or can thine hand be strong? Are ye able?" (Isa. 48:10; Ezek. 22:14; Matt. 20:22)

And in the furnace He melts us into something of His own tenderness and gentleness and teaches us how to bear one another's burdens and how to live to make intercessions for the sick and the sorrowful. (Gal. 6:2; Heb. 7:25; Ephes. 6:18)

But this is only the transitory side. There is an everlasting reward of praise, honor and glory at the coming of Christ. (1 Pet. 1:17) "For our present trouble, which is only for a short time, is working out for a much greater weight of glory; while our minds are not on the things which are seen: for the things which are seen are for a short time; but the things which are not seen are eternal." (2 Cor. 4:17, 18)

No man can hope to control his destiny if he cannot control himself, one single act at a time.

## 10 TOP LEADERSHIP TRAITS IN THE WORLD OF BUSINESS CAN ALSO APPLY TO OUR SPIRITUAL LIVES

1. **Integrity** - People must be able to trust you.
2. **Courage** - Ability to make decisions.
3. **Ego Drive** - Ability to choose realistically a course of action and behave in a manner that will bring the most productive results.
4. **Peoplemindedness** - Ability to care about others and cause others to be willing to follow your ideals. Dwight Eisenhower used to use this illustration: He would place a length of string on his desk and then tell his aide: "Pull it and it will follow your finger wherever you wish it to go. Push it and you get nowhere at all. It's the same way with people."
5. **Knowhow** - Not so much the knowledge itself, or even the ability to grasp and understand complex issues, but the use of knowledge and the insatiable desire to learn everything there is to learn about a subject.
6. **Sense of Urgency** - It is absolutely better to do something, recognizing that it may not be the right things, than to do nothing at all! If you don't have a sense of urgency, the bottom drops out .
7. **High Standards** - The realistic pursuit of excellence. Shoot for perfection on an ongoing basis. Be positive not negative.
8. **Analytical Abilities** - Break problems down, reduce them to their more palatable components, rather than attempting to buck them broadside in total. Organize and sequence the parts and tackle them one at a time. The problem solves itself.
9. **Concentration** - You must be able to blockout all other issues and at the same time, maintain enough flexibility to permit a high priority issue or crisis to intrude. Concentrate on order of importance.
10. **Enthusiasm** - Create excitement! Reflect enthusiasm. Enthusiasm is the mother of effort, and without it nothing great was ever accomplished." Emerson.

The top ten leadership traits are self explanatory; it is not necessary to go into great detail. I am sure we all can see the application we can make in our spiritual lives.

May God bless those who are trying to utilize these ten traits in their lives daily - our brothers and sisters in the great family of Christ.

Your sister,  
Velma J. Wheaton

## A STATEMENT OF INTENTION FROM THE GENERAL UNITED WORKERS CONFERENCE MEETING

A motion was made and seconded that a statement be published in the Advocate for 5 consecutive times of our intentions to transfer the funds for the Old Folks Home Fund, collected and held by the United Workers, to a fund called Assistance to the Elderly in the Church, to be administered by the United Workers. Carried 17 for, 1 against.

A motion was made and seconded that we select a committee of 3, to be composed of the Chairman, Treasurer and one member by nomination to disburse this assistance as needed. Carried unanimously.

The selection of this committee was deferred till next year subsequent to the five consecutive publications of the statement of our intentions in this matter. Carried.

Respectfully submitted by  
**Irene Case**  
Secretary of the  
General United Workers

## OBITUARY MARVIN E. SHRUM

On March 19, 1982 I officiated at the funeral of Brother Marvin E. Shrum of Taylor, Michigan. Previous to the services held at Fredericktown, Missouri, services were held in Michigan for friends and relatives. Brother Shrum was born April 17, 1899, and was baptized June 28, 1947, passing from this life on March 15, 1982 at Trenton, Michigan.

Elder Tony Grzincic

Dear Readers:

Any information on the whereabouts or address of the people whose names are listed below, with their last known address, will be greatly appreciated. Please send information to:

Elder Isaac Brockman  
1208 Baker Drive  
Independence, Mo. 64050

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Enrique Montoya Martinez<br>Ft. Leavenworth, Ks.   | Imogene Eugene Perry<br>Box 147<br>Coffeyville, Ks. |
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- |   |  |
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| Frances Marie Clark<br>Rt. 1<br>Sand Lake, Mi.        | Gladys Kennedy<br>Coleman, Mi.                 |

Since I am the General Church Recorder, I solicit your help in any way.

In Gospel Bonds,  
Isaac Brockman

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1. TITLE OF PUBLICATION	A. PUBLICATION NO.	3. DATE OF FILING	
ZION'S ADVOCATE	6 9 9 3 0 0	11-23-82	
2. FREQUENCY OF ISSUE	B. NO. OF ISSUES PUBLISHED ANNUALLY	8. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION PRICE	
MONTHLY	12	\$4.00 states \$8.50 foreign	
4. COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS OF KNOWN OFFICE OF PUBLICATION (Street, City, County, State and ZIP Codes) (Not printer)			
Church of Christ (Temple Lot) P.O. Box 472, 200 S. River Blvd., Indep., Mo. 64051			
5. COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESS OF THE HEADQUARTERS OR GENERAL BUSINESS OFFICES OF THE PUBLISHERS (Not printer)			
same as above			
6. FULL NAMES AND COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESSES OF PUBLISHER, EDITOR AND MANAGING EDITOR (The firm MUST NOT be blank)			
PUBLISHER (Name and Complete Mailing Address)			
Church of Christ (Temple Lot) Box 472, 200 S. River Blvd., Indep., Jackson, Mo. 64051			
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(See instruction on reverse)

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"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but  
whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy."  
(Proverbs 28:13)

**CHURCH OF CHRIST CONFERENCES**

The 1983 Minister's Conference (general membership) for the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) will commence Sunday, April 3, 1983. The business sessions will start at 9:00 A. M. Monday, April 4. A Solemn Assembly will be held prior to the conference, April 1 and 2, 1983.

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