

Mrs Eva Downey

Fulton County Gospel News

"The Churches of Christ Salute You"

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID

VOLUME 8 - NO. 2

MAMMOTH SPRING, ARK.

JUNE - 1966

What Must I Do to Become a Christian

HEAR— "If any man have an ear, let him hear." Rev. 13:9 "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17.

BELIEVE — Except ye believe that I am he, ye shall die in your sins." John 8:24 "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Heb. 11:6

REPENT — "I tell you, nay; but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Lk. 13:3 "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent." Acts 17:30

CONFESS — "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I also confess before my Father which is in heaven." Matt. 10:32 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Rom. 10:9

BE BAPTIZED — "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Mk. 16:16 "Repent and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38

"THEN THEY THAT GLADLY RECEIVED HIS WORD WERE BAPTIZED: AND THE SAME DAY THERE WERE ADDED UNTO THEM ABOUT THREE THOUSAND SOULS." Acts 2:41.

"What good is a high standard of living with a low standard of life?"

To Show World's Fair Exhibit at Sedalia Fair

SEDALIA, MO. — Ray Mooney, minister of the 14th St. and Stewart Ave. church of Christ in Sedalia announced this week that churches of Christ throughout Missouri have arranged to move the entire church of Christ exhibit from the recent New York World's Fair to Sedalia for the Missouri State Fair August 20-28.

Mr. Mooney said that this is a cooperative enterprise by all congregations of that religious group throughout the state. He said that about 150 preachers, elders and other leaders of the church met in Sedalia on Saturday, May 21, to finalize plans for the exhibit and acquaint them with the project. There are about 480 congregations of the church of Christ in Missouri according to Mooney.

The church of Christ exhibit at the World's Fair was judged to be the most outstanding of its kind at the giant exposition. Occupying a 20 by 40 foot space with additional space for a "Little Theatre" that seats approximately 25 persons, the exhibit cost more than three quarters of a million dollars to build and maintain for the two years at New York. This cost was underwritten by churches of Christ throughout the entire United States. Mooney estimates the cost of moving the exhibit to Sedalia and maintaining it for the eight-day period there to be in the neighborhood of \$20,000.

Specially trained personnel will staff the exhibit at the Sedalia exposition. They are being selected and trained now under the supervision of Mr. Dewey Shaw, minister of the Brush Creek church of Christ, in Kansas City, Mo. Shaw

NEWS ITEMS

The new building on the highway between Thayer and Myrtle is about complete. They plan to have their interior finished enough to have their meeting in it July 25 to August 3. Brother Arthur Blackwell will do the preaching. The building is at Delhaff, Missouri.

Waymon Miller of Tulsa, Oklahoma will be preaching in a meeting at Mammoth Spring on July 25 to August 3, 1966. We are looking forward to this meeting.

Brother Richard England will be in a meeting at Alexandria, La. June 12 to the 19th.

The new addressing machine has been purchased and will be used in the near future. A good deal of work will go into getting the 1750 stencils typed, but it will lessen the work of addressing the paper each month thereafter. Sister Rosa Ragsdale has done a fine job for the past number of years addressing the paper by hand, but with the law requiring the zip code on each paper, it would be almost impossible for her to do this work in any reasonable time. She will, of course, continue to help with the paper being mailed, but will not have to do it all by herself. All who have worked with the paper appreciate her.

R. A. Hartsell of West Texas will be preaching in a meeting at Viola, Arkansas June 24 to July 3. Services will be at 8 p.m. CST.

Glen Pace of Searcy, Arkansas will preach in a meeting at Wheeling June 20 to 27.

Gene Bench will be in a meeting at Gatewood, Missouri August 7-14.

Burl Curtis will be in a meeting at Elizabeth, Arkansas July 17 - 23.

worked for several weeks at the exhibit in New York, according to Mr. Mooney.

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY
FREE SUBSCRIPTION

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SUPPORTED BY:
CHURCHES OF CHRIST
IN THIS AREA

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THE TRAGEDY OF LEISURE

General Alfred M. Gruenther suggests that, "Those who are harping for and who wish for a 25 to 30 hour work week might do well to ponder that no civilization in history has ever been able to make use of a large amount of leisure profitably and still remain a great civilization."

Let's take a look and see what leisure we now have is doing for our souls.

The automobile which has been a great blessing to man, and has become a necessity to our manner of living today, has made it easier for people to get to the place of worship. But while it has done that it has also made it possible for us to drive a long distance from the place of worship, and the time the average family has off over the weekend makes it possible to plan to go many places. While doing this the family does not enjoy the privilege of becoming an active part of any church of the Lord's people. They are taken here and there, worshipping one place and eating with grandma one Sunday and at another place while visiting aunt Susie the next. Of course they "have their membership" where they live but that is about all of their religion that is there. The

rest of it is gadding about in the "necessary convenience." People who thus live wonder why their children do not grow up to love the Lord.

Then take a look at another way in which we spend our extra time. Some people like to ride in a boat and today there are lakes all around everywhere. It is easy to slip off to the cabin Friday evening when the work day is over and spend the Lord's day on the water. If we do not do this we can rush to worship Sunday morning after spending the Bible study hour loading our boats, and run out to the lake Sunday afternoon. It is not difficult to get caught on the far end of the lake just about time for evening services and not be able to worship God again that day.

When I visit in the home of a shut-in I am always glad when I see that he has, and can enjoy, television. This is one of man's greatest accomplishments as far as entertainment and news are concerned. But then I think of how much this blessing is abused by those who are able to do something for lost souls. We take the time we have off from work and spend it watching this show and that show. We hear about conditions over the world and shake our heads in sadness because of the conflicts that threaten to destroy civilization, and do nothing about converting the lost soul who lives next door.

The farmer, who worked from sun-up to sun-down many years ago would have thought he had at least one foot in heaven if he could have the time we now possess, but has reaching that goal made us any better? That farmer often read his Bible more at the end of a row of corn, while his mules were resting, than we read it in all this time we have. Perhaps that is the reason the Lord's people were referred to as "walking Bibles" in those days, but are never so thought of today. Never in the history of the world have we had the time to do so much, but never were so many doing so little. It is possible we would all be closer to God if we were back in

those sun-up to sun-down days with only a mule to ride and a row of corn to see. The manner in which we use our leisure is one of the greatest tragedies of our day.

—Selected

The Church Coloring Book

See the man. He is a very important man. He has money. See the usher as he passes the collection plate to the man. Color the man. Color him blue.

(On the next page)

Here is the man again. He did not know that the elders had taken out the felt padding in the metal collection plates. He has just dropped in a fifty-cent piece. Color his face red.

(Turn page)

See the pretty lady walking down the aisle to find her pew. She her pretty clothes. Color her clothes expensive. See all the eyes of the other ladies as they look at the pretty clothes. Color their eyes green.

(Next Page)

See the preacher. He is getting ready to preach. Color his tie loud. Also, color his mouth loud. Color the people sleepy.

(Turn page)

Color the people inside the church warm and respectable. Color them snug and smug. Outside the church building are small children. See them on tip-toes looking through the window? They are orphan children. Color them hungry. Color them lonely.

(Last page)

The people are leaving the church building. See how happy they are! They are complimenting the preacher on a nice sermon. They are being nice to one another. They are saying sweet things to one another. Color some of the people with two faces. Color one face light. Color the other face very dark.

—Gary Freeman

"Shenanigans"

Richard England
Mammoth Spring, Ark.

For the information of some who have been misinformed, the Abilene Christian College Choral-aires came to Mammoth Spring on April 1 to present a program of music in the church building. On that same afternoon they gave a program at the High School building in Thayer, Missouri. In that the program presented at the High School included certain secular numbers backed by a "classical guitar", the local newspapers reported that such was a part of their program, and it was (at the High School). Others have heard of their coming and have been greatly disturbed by what the paper said, even to the point of saying a good deal about what they thought took place. There was not a secular number presented in the church building, nor was there any playing on a "classical guitar" in the church building. All that has been said and written about that was to no avail and demonstrates the lack of knowledge and scruples of its authors.

The statements which have been made to criticize the church here, were made in ignorance, not only of what went on on April 1, but also of the Bible. Certainly, that which we do in worship must have Bible authority. But, there are some expedients which we use in carrying out these authorized things. One such expedient is a building owned by the church in which to worship. The building itself is not commanded. We could meet and worship and be scriptural in every way, and never own a building. Some self-styled law-makers have now come up with a set of rules which tell us what we can and can't do in this building that is merely an expedient to begin with. The Jews of Jesus' day were severely rebuked for making laws God did not make. "For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers." (Matt. 23: 4) I would like to see a list of the

rules concerning what we can and cannot do in a building where the church meets. Then, of course, I would expect scriptures in support of such rules. Can the preacher listen to the radio in his office at the church building? Is it proper to get a drink of water in the church building? What about using the toilets in the church building? Do we have to cease all conversation when we enter the "sanctuary" (that is the way denominationalists refer to it) and refrain from any "secular" things until we exit? Can any "secular" thing be done outdoors on the ground which was purchased "for a place of worship and teaching God's word"?

Brethren, don't be misled by false teachers who would make laws God did not make.

A Good Gossip Recipe

Take a harmless event...add an ugly motive.... stir in your own opinion add a suspicious tone.... put in a measure of "they say" add imaginary details to heighten taste sprinkle well with spice of rumor heat over the flame of envy serve secretly and as often as possible to any who will give attention.

GOD, SAVE OUR HOMES!

There is no surer sign of national ruin than the way we treat our homes. One doesn't have to be a believer in God or the Bible to realize that marriage and the home are the foundations of our society. Where homes have disintegrated civilizations have fallen. Teenagers being asked what home is have answered "Where we go between midnight and daylight when everything else is closed", "a place where the keys are". One husband answered that home is nothing but a hotel. Who would give this definition?...."The place where we work the hardest and are appreciated the least."

At a time when attractions and

allurements are at missile-height it is even more imperative and urgent that God's word be taught, respected and obeyed. Today in the city of Los Angeles the phone directory lists more than three entire columns of marriage counselors. It takes two full pages to list the psychologists and psychiatrists. The disturbing item is that many people will not bow their knee to the Lord but will prostrate themselves on a psychiatrist's couch.

Someone said we send our children to school for education, to church for religion, to parks to play, to restaurants to eat and to camps for their vacations. What do they get at home?

Proverbs 22:6 says: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." That is obviously intended for the home.

Ronald Milton

How to Kill a Church

Don't come. If you do, come late. Kick if you are not given some task to do, and if you are given an assignment, don't fulfill it. Think of all the reasons why a good work should not be done. Let your influence be felt by seeing how many good works you can be opposed to. Think small. Be negative. Be suspicious. Before acting (if you do act), take counsel of your fears first, not your faith. Criticize as much as possible those who are trying to do something. If a few do take off their coats, roll up their sleeves and start some work, yell loud and long about how the congregation is being run by a clique.

"We are all concerned with the high cost of living, but have you really considered the high cost of dying unprepared?"

"What good is a space conquest to men who are losing their souls? "Freedom is not the privilege to do as you please but the opportunity to do as you ought."

The Three Rules of Life

Orbie Robbins
Elizabeth, Arkansas

For many years man has referred to the three rules of life: The Iron Rule, the Silver Rule, and the Golden Rule. Possibly no example illustrates the working of all three rules more clearly than the story of the "Good Samaritan" as told by Jesus and recorded in Luke 10:25-37.

The thieves who stripped the man, wounded him, and departed were living by the Iron Rule: "might makes right". It is a way of life that is wholly selfish. It takes all it can with no thought for the welfare and rights of others. It does not lead to happiness, and those who follow this rule never know satisfaction from that which they obtain." For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and have pierced themselves through with many sorrows." (1 Tim. 6:10) Remember the words of our Lord: "Take heed and beware of covetousness; for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." (Lk. 12:15)

The Priest and the Levite were living by the Silver rule. "What you do not want others to do to you, do not unto them." This rule would forbid you doing harm to a man, but would never motivate you to do good to him. The Priest and Levite passed by on the other side, ignoring the man. They probably excused themselves by saying: "I didn't hurt him". In Matthew 25:31-46 we have the Lord's picture of the judgement and the terrible sentence passed against the many who have not rendered aid to their fellowman. Many today are living by the Silver Rule in that they would not steal and defraud - but they are too obsessed with their own personal affairs to render aid to others. Paul charged, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially them of the

household of faith." (Gal. 6:10) Condemnation rests upon us when we wilfully turn our faces from any good deed.

A despised Samaritan came by. Tho of another race, he lived by the Golden rule. This rule is clearly stated by Jesus in Luke 6:31: "As ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." This rule will bring the utmost happiness now, and an eternal reward that will never pass away. "Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for there by some have entertained angels unawares." We cannot afford to pass up any opportunity for giving aid, for thereby we minister unto the Lord. This means that the saint must regard all he has as belonging to others when there is a need. We should never become so occupied with the cares of this world as to become blinded to the wonderful service we can render God and man by unselfish behavior. In this way the disciple walks in the step of the Master who went about doing good. (Acts 10:38) What better way can we show our discipleship? "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us leaving us an example, that we should follow in his steps." (1 Peter 2:21)

Spurn the Iron Rule, be bigger than the Silver Rule, and live by the Golden Rule. Thus, heaven will be your home, and the world will be made better by your having been here.

Success - -

He has achieved success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of little children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who has never lacked appreciation of earth's beauty or failed to express it; who has always looked for the best in others and given the best he had; whose life was an inspiration, whose memory a benediction.

Contributions

FOR MAY - 1966

CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Wheeling	\$ 5.00
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Bruce Fuhrman	3.00
Noel McFann	2.00
Martha Briggs	1.00

Things that Impress Visitors, But in the Wrong Way

1. Two or three prayers — that cannot be heard,
2. Members that day-dream through the services,
3. Members who never open their mouths during the singing,
4. Floors cluttered with Kleenex, gum wrappers, baby cookies, crumbs and scraps,
5. Scribbling in the song books or otherwise needlessly damaged songbooks,
6. Tattered songbooks with missing pages,
7. Not enough Bibles on hand to go around to all in a Bible class,
8. Members who talk, whisper, write notes, pass pictures, etc., during worship or a Bible class,
9. Persistent late comers.
10. Those night owls who cannot stay awake during the worship of God,
11. Members who cannot resist playing with a cute baby during the worship service,
12. Members who never bother to speak to each other or to invite visitors to come again.

—Selected

You may give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.