

(cont. from front page)

Go expecting to find the answer to some need of your own. Be ready to find it in the words of the hymn, the Scripture, a prayer or the sermon.

If we sit in the pews expecting nothing, then our expectations are met to the letter.

--Selected

--Ypsilanti News

NEWS AND NOTES

Singing at Marks Nursing Home 6:30 p. m.

Gospel Meeting continuing nightly through October 8, Marvin F. Bryant, speaker, Coldwater, Michigan.

Gospel meeting at Niles, Michigan, Oct. 2-7.

Teacher training workshop for all -- Dormoyer Ave. Oct. 16-20.

We are happy to have the presence of the Detroit Metropolitan Youth Chorus. They are practicing at Camp Indogan getting ready for their winter concert tour.

WATCH --HERALD OF TRUTH-- Sunday Mornings--
8:00 a. m. WJTV Channel 28.

Earl Gieseke
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LaGrange, Indiana 46761

L A G R A N G E

C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

E X H O R T E R

October 1, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
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IF YOU GET NOTHING OUT OF THE CHURCH SERVICE

Too often, it seems, we go to church out of a sense of obligation, rather than of gratefulness for the opportunity to worship and praise God. If you feel you get nothing from the worship service, try the following suggestions and see if there isn't a noticeable change.

Go with a sense of anticipation. Have a smile ready for everyone. Church should not be a place of gloom.

Plan to arrive at least fifteen minutes early so that you will enter relaxed with time for some meditation.

Avoid conversation.

Pray for the needs of all those about you: family, friends, strangers, teachers, the preachers.

Try to eliminate any feelings you might have of criticism, ill will or resentments. Such emotions block the flow of spiritual power. (cont.)

MEASURING OUR GROWTH

If the Bible is plain on any subject, it is plain regarding our growth pattern as a Christian. Peter says "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby." I Pet. 2:2. Paul says "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive. But speaking the truth in love, may grow up unto him in all things, which is the head even Christ." Eph. 4:14, 15.

In order to be spiritually healthy, we must grow. How do we measure our growth? To help answer this question, we might ask another. How do we measure our physical growth? I can know that my children have grown by the things they have outgrown. Now that another season is about upon us and we begin pulling out last winter's clothes, they are a grim reminder that the children are growing up. They no longer can use these clothes.

Our spiritual growth can be measured the same way. What things have we put off? What things have we outgrown? Paul says "But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth." Col. 3:8 Eph. 4:31 teaches essentially the same thing. Paul says in Eph. 5:3,4, But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather the giving of thanks."

Can we honestly say that we have outgrown these things?" If we haven't could we not conclude that we have not grown as we should. Let's partake of God's spiritual food, the word of God, and we, and He, may expect a normal growth toward Christian Maturity.

D. H.

H A B I T

People often make the mistake of supposing that the iron pegs to which elephants are chained in the circus menagerie are anchored deeply enough to keep the mountains of strength from running away.

"Probably at one time in the early stages of captivity each elephant has been chained so thoroughly that he couldn't possibly escape. Thereafter, he believes himself to be securely fastened, no matter how weak the chain and stake that restrains him." (Preceding in a story, THE TEMPERAMENTAL ELEPHANT, By F. B. Kelly)

The thought struck me forcibly that when it comes to certain ways of living and thinking, we are very much like the elephant. We believe that we cannot break away from a habit; we believe we are chained to it by unbreakable fastenings, when in reality we are chained to it simply by the thin thought of believing in our inability to be free. That's an elephant way of thinking!

Our resources, compared with our bad habits and our handicaps, are as bulky as the elephant compared with his peg and chain. So do not take it for granted that you cannot be free - try tugging!

--From CHINS UP - Mildred Seydell

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

The young man finally parked his car in a "No Parking" zone and left this note: "I circled the block 20 times. If I don't keep an appointment, I'll lose my job. Forgive us our trespasses."

When he returned he found the following note from a policeman: "I've circled this block for 20 years. If I don't give you a ticket, I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."

TEACHEPS WOPSHOP --Dornmoyer Ave. congregation--
October 16-20 -- 7:30 to 8:45 each evening. Don't
miss this series of lessons on the teaching of
God's Word.

HERALD OF TRUTH REGIONAL WORKSHOP --Oct. 9, 10
Spring Mill Bible Camp--Mitchell, Indiana.

HALLOWEEN PARTY is being planned for Friday
Oct. 28. Fort Wayne is the host congregation.
We will give more details so watch the bulletin.

Cont. from front page)

Carson's stunned reaction made several million
viewers wonder what the missing word was and why
NBC sliced it out of the show. Was it dirty?

Not really. The word was NICOTINE defined in the
dictionary as a poisonous, oily liquid found in
tobacco. And, considering the revenue it gets
from cigarette commercials, NBC wasn't too hot to
get that particular usage of nicotine on the air!!

--Selected
--Ypsilanti News

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LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

October 8, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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COME --
to worship
LEAVE --
to serve

COMMENT ON THE JOHNNY CARSON SHOW

Some time back, the Johnny Carson show featured
a seadiver, a young man who goes down on the
ocean floor looking for sunken treasures. While
showing films of himself at work the fellow
said sharks sometimes had to be killed off be-
fore they had a chance to kill him. Using his
underwater gun, the diver would zero in on a
shark, fire, and almost instantly the shark
would go limp and sink to the bottom.

Innocently, Carson said something like, "How
that's potent stuff--what is it?"

"We use -----." said the diver. "Kills
them in about eight seconds." (cont.)

"THIS IS A HARD SAYING, WHO CAN HEAR IT?"

When Jesus came to take command of relating the teachings of God to mankind, he dealt with matters of everyday occurrence and could be easily understood by everyone. He did however approach the subjects with a new and different meaning thereby making his teachings many times hard to accept. Christ had an insight into man's problems which man himself could not know, and was able to lay down words of truth which, if followed, would produce an abundant and happy life. Because man was steeped in his ways and Christ came challenging their practices they were many times offended at his teachings. Many of them turned back and walked no more with him. John 6:66.

Christ's doctrine is still offending people today. Do any of these commands offend you?

1. Worship attendance, as often as the saints assemble, we are admonished to be there. If we can use Heb. 10:25 to prove attendance at one service, we can use the same verse to prove attendance at all services. This must be a hard saying, for some do not attend on Sunday evening or Thursday evening.

2. The wearing of modest apparel is a hard saying to many Christians. Today's styles don't make it any easier. This sin of immodesty is becoming common style among Christians today. Where are God's peculiar people who show godliness unto the world? See I Tim. 2.

The command to be our brother's keeper is offensive to some. Some think it's getting too personal. Some think it's none of anyone else's business. In the day of judgment, many will wish fervently that someone had "butted into their business" just once. See I Tim. 5:20, II Thess. 3:6 and I Thess. 5:11.

(continued)

4. God's laws on marriage are regarded less with each passing generation. Study Rom. 1-3; I Cor. 7; I Thess. 5:22 and I Cor. 3:16-17.

5. Many Christians have turned back because of commands regarding worldliness. Smoking, drinking, dancing, revelling are regarded as hard sayings by all too many. Christ's answer is still the same: "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life." If we turn away from the words of Christ, to whom shall we go?

* * * * * D. H.

PSYCHIATRIST

Dr. James T. Fisher, one of the country's foremost psychiatrists, has written a book called "A Few Buttons Missing: The Case Book of a Psychiatrist." In this book Dr. Fisher says: "If you were to take the sum total of all the authoritative articles ever written by the most qualified of psychologists and psychiatrists on the subject of mental hygiene, if you were to combine them and refine them and cleave out the excess verbiage, if you were to take the whole of the meat and none of the parsley, and if you were to have these unadulterated bits of pure scientific knowledge concisely expressed by the most capable of living poets, you would have an awkward and incomplete summation of the Sermon on the Mount.

--Selected

* * * * *

MEDITATE ON THIS: "If you play with sin it will soon crowd you out of the society of decent people. Sin should never be considered a plaything. Sin will soil the most beautiful garment." Selected

Don's

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

October 15, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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Come --
 and bring
 someone
 with you.

"IF"

If I were a great preacher I would preach great themes,
 How Jesus came down, that we might be redeemed.
 If I were a great writer I would write for all men,
 How Jesus came down, and died for our sins.
 If I were a great prophet I would shout it aloud,
 How Jesus will appear one day from a cloud.
 If I were a great singer I would sing a melody,
 How Jesus came down to die on Calvary.
 If I were a great teacher I would teach every soul,
 How Jesus is pleading; make heaven your goal.
 If I were a great pilot I would write in the sky,
 How Jesus has said; all men must die.
 If I had great wealth I would share it with God,
 And tell how Jesus before us has trod.

(Cont. on back page)

(Continued from front page)

But I am not rich; I'm not a great preacher,
 Yet, one thing I am; in Christ a new creature.
 Two hands He has given, my eyes to see,
 Two feet to walk; my God gave me.
 And use them I must; my duty is clear,
 Or be condemned to hell for my wasted life here.

E. E. G.

* * * * *

TEACHERS WORKSHOP -- Donmoyer Ave. congregation,
 South Bend -- October 16-20 -- 7:30 to 8:45 p. m.
 each evening. Don't miss this series of lessons
 on the teaching of God's Word.

MICHIGAN CHRISTIAN COLLEGE -- Lectureship.
 October 15-19. (If you have never attended one
 of these, you have missed a wonderful experience)

GARRETT GOSPEL MEETING - Oct. 22-29. Brother
 Paul Galyan preaching. We should support our sis-
 ter congregation in this effort.

YOU FINISH THE STORY

Once there was a congregation in which every mem-
 ber was just like you. Each one cooperated and
 supported every program, worked as hard and attend-
 ed the same services, gave in proportion, and was
 as interested in the church as you are right now.
 Within a year or so, this congregation

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 LaGrange, Indiana 46761

"I DON'T HAVE TIME TO SIN-(VERY OFTEN)

As I talk to my brethren, near and far, I am deeply impressed by their diligence. I hear an endless tirade of all the things they have been or are going to do (that is when they aren't listening to my plaver) that keeps them so busy that they don't have time to do any work for the church.

I hear such things as: "I haven't had time to catch my breath," or "I don't know whether I'm coming or going." (To quote a trite phrase, "Now I could believe that!" Some times they say, "I've just about started doing this or that," or "Now just as soon as I get caught-up I'm going to devote more time to the serving of God." Days run into weeks and weeks into months and still they are too busy to visit their neighbor, go to the hospital or read the Holy Bible. We act like the man who was so busy that he said he would have to wait two weeks to worry about anything new that might happen to him.

Maybe you are too busy tearing down little cribs and building bigger ones. You don't have to be a farmer to apply the parable of the rich farmer! Maybe you are too busy racing along with the world after things of the world until you have lost sight of that one which is to come. Some people seem to regard their religion as a cross between a fire escape and Christmas tree. Too many church buildings are becoming a distribution point for religious aspirins. Some people have enough religion to make them decent but not enough to make them dynamic. People want the preacher to get up and preach something nice and short. They don't want him to be specific about personal sins. Some drag into church services late or stand in the vestibule and laugh and talk while the Bible is being read or prayers are being offered. When the song leader announces the song many roll their cud of gum to one side of the mouth and try to sing with the spirit and understanding while

chewing their gum. Did you ever stand in front of a bunch of cows and watch them chew their gum? That's what the song leader and the preacher sees each time they stand before most congregations to lead songs or preach. But the main difference between a cow chewing its cud and the church-goer chewing theirs is that the cow looks thoughtful and contented. Most gum chewers I have seen just look bored.

Peter said to desire the sincere milk of the word that you might grow unto salvation, but I never drank milk with gum in my mouth. Too often the mind of the audience is focused on the things of the world rather than the cross of Christ. Many people sing from habit; others don't even bother to sing. May we come to realize that singing is just as important as any other part of the service.

We all manage to find time to do things we want to do; the things that we can put off we do. We often think about doing the Lord's work, but just don't get around to doing it. Remember, no farmer ever got a field plowed by turning it over in his mind. If we, as members of the Lord's church are as busy as we say we are then we ought to be near perfection, because we wouldn't have time to sin. (Very often) When we reach the scene of Judgment and the Judge shows us the book of our deeds (and lack of deeds) we will just have to plead that we were too busy. We need to realize that it is a sin to sing (even without an instrument). "To the Work, Toiling on, I'll Work Til Jesus Comes, I want to Be a Worker for the Lord and then be so busy working for ourselves that we forget to work for God. We sing Sweet Hour of Prayer and then often fail to show up for the meeting of the saints. How about "I love Thy Kingdom Lord" and a great percent of the members of the church through out the world can't tell an alien sinner how to become a member.

E. E. G.

NEWS AND NOTES

Due to some conflicts, the area wide singing scheduled at Donmoyer Ave in So. Bend this afternoon will be called off. The singing for next month will be at Lagrange.

Gospel meeting to begin at Garrett today and continue through the 29th. Let's try to attend as much as we can in support of this meeting.

All high school teenagers are invited to a halloween party at Camp Indogan this Friday evening. Some activities are being scheduled for Saturday also for those who with chaperons desire to stay all night. Camp is also scheduled to be winterized after activities in afternoon. Help if you can.

Mrs. Gerald Fisher is in the Lagrange hospital.

(continued)

is coming from. God provides for them. David said, "I have been young and now am old; yet have I never seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." We need to realize we are not alone. "He careth for you." We cannot worry ourselves up, but we can worry ourselves down. When six men bear each of us to our grave, the important thing will be not, "What did you own," but, "Who owned you?"

E. E. G.

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L A G R A N G E

C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

E X H O R T E R

October 22, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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Let's lead someone to CHRIST.

" D A N C E R S "

H. B. Hardeman was once asked what dangers that he saw confronting the Lord's Church today, he replied:

1. FIRST, a lack of Bible knowledge and a light regard for what it says.
2. A tendency to make the church a social club of entertainment.
3. The disposition to compromise the truth and discourage sound preaching.
4. A love for the praise of men more than the praise of God, lest they be put out of some one's social circle.

--Selected

CONTENTMENT

In Hebrews 13:5 the writer says, "Be content with what you have." In I Timothy we read, "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and it is certain we will carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us therewith be content."

These are hard words to take in our modern society. In our daily life we observe and oft times envy, those who are traveling to distant places for vacations and trips of various kinds. Fools that we are, we do not realize that one can and should be happy at home with God as our companion. Our grandfathers and grandmothers had as good a time as we do and may have lived and died within the confines of a single county. This was before a person had to drive a thousand or fifteen hundred miles to go fishing or hunting or take a few days vacation. Now the "genuine" American has to be "going somewhere" to be happy. If it is best for us to go, then go and be happy. If it is best for us to stay at home, then stay at home and be happy. There are many reasons why we should, "be content with what we have."

We have all that is essential for life. We too often make much of what we don't have instead of counting our blessings for what we do have. Health, in a reasonable measure, is the greatest gift God could give us. This is usually greatest in those who have not lived in the lap of luxury, and have been petted and pampered. It is better to have two feet to stroll through God's wondrous beauties of nature than all the wealth and be pushed in a wheel chair by a dozen servants and nurses. A meal of turnips and hog jowl tastes better to one whose appetite has been sharpened by honest labour than an ulcer-ridden tycoon feasting by candle light on partridge under glass and the imported wines. Health is the greatest gift God has given to us that we can truly enjoy. True happiness does not consist of the outward circumstance. You can see

people miserable and happy in all circumstances.

We can find Herod miserable on the throne while Paul was singing in the darkness of a prison. The Bible tells of King Ahab going to bed in the middle of the day through melancholy, while near by Nabeth is contented with a single vineyard. We see the rich King David wallowing in luxury and having a host of wives unhappy because he desired the wife of one of his faithful servants, who was risking his life in the defense of David's kingdom. If our heart is right before God we ought to be happy. If our heart is not right before God there is no way to be happy. However hard you may find life now, if you are a Christian the scene will soon pass. Pain, trials and persecutions will soon be over, because these things never knock at the door of the grave. Take a stroll through a grave yard. Maybe it will cheer you up. You will see that it no longer matters what they possessed of the material things. The question is not, "What did he leave the heirs?", but rather, "What did he send on ahead?" The hand that was refined and white is now the same as the one that was roughened and scarred by hard labor as it returns to the dust from whence it came. In that silent land there are no titles for anyone. The headstone isn't important to the remains resting there. There is no "clergy" or "laity" now. The famous family name cannot pull any strings now, "to open doors." Every person whose remains are there will be called before the bar of God to give an account and to be judged according to their works. How terrible to fall into the hands of the living God unprepared.

God has assured us that He will care for us. Do you think that One who controls the seas of the world will allow His child to die of thirst? Will One who has his cattle on a thousand hills allow His child to starve? Go out early on a spring morning and take a walk in the woods. Hear the cheerful singing of the birds. They have no care as to where the next meal (continued back page)

(continued from front page)
Uncle "T" often kept the family home from God's house. He could preach a sermon when he wanted to. He was good and he was bad. He taught the children how to curse and how to pray. He worked our arithmetic and showed us how to pick pockets. But now he is dead! He charmed us and he gave us a headache. He talked us into buying things we didn't really need. Everything has been so peaceful and quiet since the day Uncle "T" finished his course.

The children are happier, dad has fine meals and mother takes time to read the Bible. But you know what? The repairman said he could bring Uncle "T" back to life for just \$39.50. All Uncle "T" needs is a new picture tube. In a way we all want him back, but we promise never to let Uncle "T" get out of hand again. He may be out of hand at your house. Don't you consider this and put him in his place if he is interfering with your service to God??

--Selected--

NEWS AND NOTES

A gospel meeting begins today at Paulding, Ohio with Lamar Matthews of Ecorse, Michigan doing the preaching. It will continue through the 3rd. of Nov.

Don't forget to use our tracts and mention the Herald of Truth to your friends. There is great power in these methods of teaching.

Earl Gieseke

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LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

October 29, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister	It is good to be
405 South Townline Road	important, but
Route 4, Box 46	it is more
LaGrange, Indiana 46761	important to be
Telephone No. 483-3571	good.

UNCLE "T" IS DEAD

Poor Uncle "T" was propped up in the corner with a blank look on his face. Authorities said he was working too hard--burning the candle at both ends. The end came fast. I hate to say it, but I'm glad. Uncle "T" was a nuisance. We welcomed him into our homes several years ago and haven't enjoyed a moment's peace since. Uncle "T" taught the children to fight, dance and pet. He told them that wine, whiskey and beer were food for them. He loved to talk. He would keep mother fascinated for hours with his big "yarns". Meals and housework were neglected. Father was captivated with Uncle "T's" knowledge of world affairs. Many times he would talk to father way into the morning hours. Folks couldn't eat or sleep because of Uncle "T".

(continued on back page)

WHEREFORE LET HIM THAT THINKETH HE STANDETH,
TAKE HEED LEST HE FALL. I COP. 10:12.

No better example could be used than that of the apostle Peter of showing how one can fall from a supposedly sure spiritual plane. Peter was so sure of his genuine fidelity to the Lord that on occasions he had to be humbled for his own good. Important lessons must be learned by every follower of God, none the least of which is that the tendency of a haughty spirit of self righteousness is always present and that a realization of this temptation should make us even more conscience of the need of God. As the writer of Proverbs states it in Chapter 16, verse 18, "Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."

On one occasion when Peter saw the Lord walking on the water, he asked that the Lord bid him come to meet him. The Lord did, but when Peter was come down out of the ship to walk to Jesus, he saw the boisterous wind and waves and he became afraid and began to sink. He then cried, "Lord save me." And immediately the Lord stretched forth his hand and caught him and said unto him, "O thou of little faith, therefore didst thou doubt?" Matt. 14:24-32.

On another occasion, Peter rebuked the Lord for saying that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed. Peter said, "Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savorest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men." Matt. 16:21,22.

Then on the night of which the Lord spoke, previous to his betrayal in the garden of Gethsemane, Peter avowed his faithfulness again and said that, "Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended. Jesus said unto him, Verily

I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice." Peter said unto him, "Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee." Matt. 26:33-35.

It is a tragic story to read how Peter behaved just as the Lord said that he would. He not only denied the Lord, but in cursing terms which must have hurt the Lord very deeply. When Jesus gazed at Peter without saying a word, Peter remembered what the Lord had said, and he went out and wept bitterly. Lk. 22:62.

In spite of all the failures and mistakes which overcame Peter, the Lord could see in him the potential of a great leader. Near the end of Christ's ministry, he said unto Peter, "But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. Lk. 22:32. And so it was that the Lord gently molded Peter from a rough stone into a polished jewel, one who after much refinement of character was fit for the master's use. Peter was not converted when he confessed Christ, as some would teach. It seems that Peter was not really qualified for his work until he had learned first hand of his need for Christ to lift him up from failures and strengthen him for tasks to come. Only then was he converted as the Lord desired so that he could strengthen others on the same Christian walk.

We later find Peter rejoicing that he was counted worthy to suffer shame for Christ (Acts 5:41) and admonishing others that "If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." 1 Pet. 4:16. Peter had come a long way since his first calling by the Lord and we may also rest assured that the same Lord today will guide us into Christian maturity if we grow in His word.

D. H.

Remember the Singing at Mark's nursing home this evening at 6:30 p. m.

Herald of Truth -- Sunday morning at 9:00--WSJV

Mrs. Fisher remains in the LaGrange Hospital -- she would like visitors if possible.

"Happiness is not perfected until it is shared.

"Any man who is too busy to pray is busier than God ever intended he should be." -Sel.

(continued) Stomach Unfair

For the next two days the hands refused to take food, the mouth declined to receive it, and the teeth had nothing to chew. But, to their surprise, the members of the body began to find that they themselves were suffering. Their movements became sluggish; the hands could not hold things, the mouth became parched, and the legs could not support the body.

And so it was that they discovered that even the stomach was, in its dull and quiet way, doing necessary work for the rest of the body and that unless all work together the whole body will go to pieces.

--Selected--

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L A G R A N G E

C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

E X H O R T E R

November 5, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

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"Unless there is within us that which is above us, we shall soon yield to that which is around us.

JESUS DIDN'T QUIT!

Jesus didn't quit meeting with the disciples because Judas Iscariot was a thief, nor because Peter was fickle at times. He did not quit preaching and living right because some of his brethren were unforgiving, unkind, over-ambitious or agnostic. Jesus didn't quit his post of leadership because he once had in his presence an adulterous woman, an unscrupulous business man, a gang of pharisaical hypocrites, or narrow-minded worshipers.

Do you use excuses to try to justify your failure to work and worship as you should? Remember: We must all give an account to God for the things done in this life. Selected--

AN UNUSUAL STATEMENT

Dr. J. P. Gibson, who is noted as a pediatrician and an elder of the church, offers some timely advice on what to do with tiny tots in worship assemblies which appears unusual.

"The worshipper should not be disturbed by children who misbehave. Children should be encouraged to be present at all services from the age of two weeks upwards, yet they should be taught to be quiet. Even infants should and can be taught this lesson. It is preferable that children be seated with their parents where a watchful eye can be kept over them.

Children who cry should be taken out of the assembly and, if necessary, given a little dose of 'birch tea' and then promptly returned to the assembly. When misbehaving is rewarded with discipline, he gets what he needs. When it is rewarded with liberty, the child gets what he wants. It is remarkable how a few doses of 'birch tea' consistently given will bring out good behavior in a child."

--Selected--

A FRIEND

"Oh, the comfort, the inexpressable comfort of feeling safe with a person, having neither to weigh thoughts, nor measure words, but pouring them all right out, just as they are--chaff and grain together, certain that a faithful hand will take and sift them--keep what is worth keeping, and with the breath of kindness, blow the rest away."

--Selected--

LEST WE FORGET

It is better not to say:

1. "Church of Christ people."
2. "Church of Christ preachers."
3. "Church of Christ doctrine."
4. "Come, let us see what the church of Christ teaches."
5. "The authority of the church."
6. "I am teaching him our position."
7. "The church of Christ is right in all points of doctrine."
8. "Congregations of the church of Christ."

It is better to say:

1. "Christians", or "Children of God".
2. "Preacher", or "evangelist".
3. "New Testament doctrine."
4. "Come, let us hear the word of God."
5. "The authority of Christ."
6. "I am teaching him God's word."
7. "The word of God is right and we are making an effort to conform the church to the same."
8. "Churches of Christ."

via W. Dearborn church of Christ.

STOMACH UNFAIR!

It occurred one day to the members of the body that they were doing all the work and the stomach was getting all the food. A meeting was called to discuss the matter, and after much talk it was decided to stop working until the stomach could be persuaded to do its share of the work.

(cont. on back page)

HAPPINESS!

Happy is he who has learned the way,
To live with others day by day.
Whose disposition constantly,
Reflects a mind that ere is freed,
From pottiness of thought and deed.

Happy is he who does not frown,
At little things that get him down.
Who laughs it off and goes his way,
Not spoiling other people's day
With bitter things he has to say.

Happy is he who has such grace
That criticism he can face
Who boasteth not his own great deeds,
But to suggestion always heeds,
And sees the flower, not the weeds.

Happy is he whose own business he minds
Nor dwells on others faults he finds,
But with his own he does his best
And helps where'ere he can the rest,
This man I think is truly blest.

--Selected--

* * * * *

Joyce Kuykendall is in the Parkview hospital
at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Plan to attend the Area wide singing at LaGrange
November 26. We will appreciate all who can attend.

Earl Gieseke
Route 4, Box 46
LaGrange, Indiana 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

November 12, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship Service	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 South Townline Road
Route 4, Box 46
LaGrange, Indiana 46761
Telephone No. 463-3571

The great question is
not what you make of
the Bible, but what
the Bible makes of you.
#####

THE RECORD BOOK

If all the thing you ever said,
Were written in a book:
And all your thoughts were on display,
So all could take a look:
I guess there's not a living soul,
Who wouldn't hang his head:
And feel ashamed before the Lord
And wish that he were dead.

There is a record book I'm told
With every deed and word:
It even keeps the records of
Our thoughts that can't be heard:
The good, the bad and every sin
For nothing has been missed:
It really makes me feel ashamed,
To think what's on my list.

-Selected--

"Whose Drum Are You Marching To?"

The "little" mother was standing watching the soldiers march by. Suddenly a broad smile came to her face as she said proudly: "That's my Johnnie. And look, everyone is out of step except him!" Everyone laughed until one individual remarked, "Maybe he is marching to the beat of another drum."

This little humorous story has two applicotions. One we will try to make in this article.

Christians will most often find themselves accused of being out of step with the world. Christians do not engage in the activities that are popular with those in the world. We cannot indulge in its vices. If you play with fire you are apt to be burned. There are only two drummers to whom we may march--Christ or Satan. When we march to the Master's drum we will be at variance with the world. The people in the first century hated Christ and His teachings because they were exposed for what they were rather than what they professed to be. The true teachings of Christ today will do the same thing. Do people today love Christ or are they hypocrites. Jesus said that if He was loved that His commandments would be kept. One translation says: "If you love me, you will lay my commands to heart." TCNT

Francis Bacon, in his "Essay on Unity in Religion," wrote almost four hundred years ago, "All colors agree in the dark... Truth and falsehood are like the iron and clay in the idol of Nebuchadnessar's image; they may cleave, but they will not incorporate." By the same token, we cannot mix soot and flour and keep the flour white and pure. You cannot mix a little truth with error and have all truth! Some seem to think that as long as they carry a Bible under their arm that they will always have the whole truth. They will have the truth, but having some thing and using it is not necessarily the same thing. How many who read this writing are using all of your knowledge and talent to the best of your ability for the cause of Christ.

John 10:35 plainly teaches that the Word cannot be set aside or annulled at the whims of men; yet in

our religious world today most denominations can no more find scriptural basis for their teachings than I can fly. Frank S. Mead in his book, HANDBOOK OF DENOMINATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES, points out that there are over 260 different religious bodies in the U. S. (This was in 1960 or 61). This makes the Lord's prayer in John 17 seem of little importance to them. Again I ask, "Do people love Christ and His word today or are they hypocrites? If some are Christians while others are hyphenated Christians are we marching by the same drummer? Most agree that it does not matter what one believes as long as they are sincere. They each refer to the other as being "right" in his or her own way.

I cannot see any difference between a "church" that is only off in a few things and one that is "far off" in their teachings. The Catholics point to the Protestants and the Protestants point to the Catholics as being all wrong. My question is simply this, "Is one any more or less wrong than than the other?" Would a person have any better or less chance of going to heaven if he were a Catholic or Protestant? We are either keeping God's commands or we are not. Zeal will not replace obedience. The Bible does not recognize Catholics or Protestants. Nor does it recognize religious titles, earthly headquarters and many other things that the religious people cling to as being "God-given" rather than "after the traditions of men."

We must keep "marching" to the Master's drum despite ridicule and opposition from the "free-thinkers" in our society. As long as God gives us strength of mind and body we must continue to teach the gospel. It is God's power to save men and women who will be obedient to it. Will YOU join in with the soldiers of Christ and march to the drum. It will result in YOU being saved as well as ANY who hear you and act according to the teachings of the BIBLE.

E. E. G.

NEWS AND NOTES

AREA WIDE SINGING - Remember it's at Lagrange next Sunday, 3:00 p.m. (EST). Invite your friends to come enjoy an hour of good inspirational singing.

Bernive Fisher is still at the Sherman Hall Home on No. Lakeview in Sturgis. She would appreciate your visit and prayers.

Don't forget the tracts, filmstrips, bulletins, etc. are for your use in teaching others about Christ. If you find anyone that wants private study in the home, be sure to tell us about it.

Sister Joyce Kuykendall is still in the Parkview hospital in Ft. Wayne from last report. May we show our concern and offer prayers and assistance as we can for her and her family.

SURVEY

A recent survey of Christian College students who married one another shows that 1 of 600 of these marriages ended in divorce. The national average is 1 of 5.

EARL GIESEKE
ROUTE 4, BOX 46
LAGRANGE, INDIANA 46761

L A G R A N G E

C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

E X H O R T E R

November 19, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 South Townline Road
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LaGrange, Indiana 46761
Telephone No. 463-3571

GOD'S WORD IN THE HEART

Recently a story was told of a young man who was shot and killed while engaged in a battle with the police. In talking about the incident later with a preacher, one of the officers said that among the items found on the young man's body was a copy of the New Testament. Then he remarked, "It would have been a lot better if he had had the New Testament in his heart instead of in his pocket." How true. A knowledge of the Bible grants one the power to become a child of God, "born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." I Peter 1:23.

--Dan Harless
--Selected

"TALKING" FOR THE LORD

Each one of us as Christians possess an ability so great in potential that it would stagger our imaginations if we used it to the fullest. This is simply our ability to talk. We comfort ourselves with the thought that our ability is so much less than what most everyone else has, that somehow not much is required of us. I would suspect that every member of this congregation has an equivalent or greater ability than the average member of the Jerusalem church recorded in Acts chapter 8. They were being persecuted and scattered abroad unto every region, but it did not dampen their ability to preach and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ everywhere they went. (verse 4). One of our greatest assets is simply our ability to talk. Don't underestimate or rate it short. A joyous heart overflowing in words of praise and thanksgiving can be the best method of communication that those out of Christ could ever know. Are we using this talent to the fullest in the Lord's work? Nothing could be more persuasive to a sinner friend than telling them what the Lord means to ME. What he has done for my family. And what he can and will do for anyone who will obey him.

Too much is at stake when we converse with others. Equally, as much harm can be done by our talk as good. This is why so much emphasis in the Bible is placed upon our words.

"Bad words are as influential as the plague and the pestilence. They have wrought more evil than battle, murder, and sudden death. They creep through the ear into the heart, call up all its bad passions, and tempt it to break God's commandments. A few bad words got into the ear of the mother of mankind, and they led her on to eat the forbidden fruit, and thus to bring death into the world" C. Hoagridge.

The Lord said in Matt. 12:36,37, "But I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak

Self Deceit

There are many facts to prove that nobody can harm you as much as you can harm yourself. Dr. Ernest F. Tittle has put it in these words: "Men do not ordinarily do wrong deliberately with their eyes wide open to the fact that what they are doing is wrong. No, they first deceive themselves into thinking that what they are tempted to do is all right. No evil, so long as it appears to be evil, causes any mental disturbance whatever. But the moment that something that is evil manages to array itself in the garments of something that is good, the moment that lust begins to look like love, or self conceit begins to look like self respect, or cowardice begins to look like prudence, or selfishness begins to look like service; the moment a man is able to persuade himself that the wrong he is contemplating is all right, then he is really tempted.

--Selected--

It is surprising how much bigger a quarter looks in a collection plate than at the gate of the county fair.

--Selected--

they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned."

Any ability so potentially influential as our ability to talk is jealously desired by both the Lord and Satan. No wonder our maker will require us to account for it in that great day.

D. H.

NEWS AND NOTES

Plan to come to the singing this afternoon at 3 p.m. and bring someone with you. We may expect good representation from other congregations.

Singing at the Marks Nursing Home next Sunday evening at 6:30.

Sister Joyce Kykendall's condition remains serious. Services are being conducted in her home each Sunday afternoon. We are invited to attend.

Continue to pray for all our sick.

(continued from page 3)

Only a blind person or one who has never bothered to look could miss the true meaning of our burial into the death of Christ. You can't preach the true gospel without preaching baptism for the remission of sins. The Romans obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered unto them. (Rom. 6:17) Go to verses 3 and 4 of the same chapter and read something about the form of doctrine.

Only by "Telling It As It Is" can we hope to lead people from the error of darkness unto the kingdom of the Son of God who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; and no man can come unto the Father except (but) by me."

F

E. E. G.

Earl Gieseke
Box 46, Route 4
LaGrange, Indiana

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

November 26, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Service	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:50 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 South Townline Road
Route 4, Box 46
LaGrange, Indiana 46761
Telephone No. 463-3571

"A half-hearted
Christian does not
render wholehearted
service or make big
hearted sacrifices."

BEATITUDES

- Blessed is the man whose calendar contains prayer meeting night.
- Blessed is the man who does not stay away from church because of a drizzle.
- Blessed is the man who can stay over an hour in a church service.
- Blessed is the man who loves the Lord's work with his pocketbook as well as his heart.
- Blessed is the man whose watch keeps church time as well as business time.
- Blessed is the man who leaves the back pew for the late comers.
- Blessed is the man who does not have a summer "lay-off" from church.
- Blessed is the man whose eyesight will stand as much reading of the Bible as of the newspaper.

--Selected--

"TELL IT LIKE IT IS"

A student came to my desk in school today and asked, "What is the difference between a minister and a reverend?" My answer was, simply stated, "One is a man and one is God." "I never knew that," said the student sincerely. (Psalms 111:9)

Why should a high school student be unaware that reverend is God's title, not mine or any other preacher of the gospel of Jesus Christ? In a recent issue of Reader's Digest there was an article entitled, "Tell It Like It Is." I believe this is the main problem in this student's life as well as many others. People in religious circles are not willing to tell or have told as it is to the people. When people are taught the truth they must of necessity begin to question some of the "old teachings" that they have heard all their life. Peter said that we should sanctify the Lord God in our heart: and be ready to give all men an answer concerning the hope that is in you with meekness and fear. We ought never miss the opportunity to "tell it as it is" when we have the opportunity. I will be the first to admit that you will not always be popular with men.

People are confused in religion today, not because the truth is unavailable, but because they are willing to be "spoon feed" by a preacher. Back many years ago before the advent of strained baby foods the mother often took the small baby with her to the table, chewed food and put it in the infant's mouth to supplement its diet of milk. (Sounds a little unsanitary doesn't it?) People today are willing to have their food (spiritual) chewed for them by a preacher or priest. Peter encourages us to desire the sincere milk of the word that we might grow thereby unto salvation. (1 Pet. 2:2)

Paul wrote, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. (Gal. 1:8)

Someone immediately asks, "Does this mean that a preacher who is sincere and honest, though not based on scripture, will be lost?" "Tell It As It Is" Paul! "As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed." (Gal. 1:9) We have too many "preacher lovers" both in and out of the church. People are too willing to base their salvation on what some man says. People ask me, "Who am I to believe? You tell me one thing and 'my' preacher tells me something else." I reply as kindly, yet as firmly as possible, "Don't believe either of us, but believe God's word as revealed by the Holy Bible." I will not (must not) risk my salvation on some theologian's idea.

One of the most debated issues, yet one of the most clearly taught, is Bible baptism. One says this and another says something. They debate the "mode" as well as its importance. Again, we must "Tell It As It Is." Of course you will not be popular! Yet you may save some soul from hell, including yours. God nor His Son ever promised ease or membership in the largest church in town. Paul wrote to the preacher and said, "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecutions." The gospel still remains the same! Paul told the Romans that God would judge the world according to his gospel. Was baptism important to Paul? Was he baptized? Well, was he? Of course he was and so was every other person who ever became a Christian as recorded in the New Testament. If Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21; and many others were not in the New Testament, baptism would still be important and essential to salvation. Every case of Bible conversion was climaxed by being baptized into Christ for the remission of their sins. Only if a person can be saved outside of Christ and without the remission of their sins is baptism unimportant. The "mode" is not even debatable.

CALLED HOME

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the Kuykendall and Pratt families for the loss of their loved one, Joyce, who passed away Friday night. Even though her passing was imminent, due to cancer in her throat and lungs, there remains a deep sorrow in our hearts which can only be soothed with the knowledge that she was a Christian. Sister Joyce and family worshipped with us when they lived closer to LaGrange. My first acquaintance with Joyce was when she was a young lady attending Camp Indogan. She had a beautiful soprano voice. I have sung many funerals with Joyce, the last one being September last year. Little did we know then that the Lord would call one of us home and our voices would never blend again this side of heaven. Our hearts will long remember this fine Christian lady and rejoice that we have been blessed by her. (DH)
*SINGING at Mark's Nursing home this evening at 6:30 p. m. Everyone welcome.

* * * * *

Some people don't think before they speak--nor afterwards.

Earl Gieseke
Route 4, Box 46
LaGrange, Indiana 46761

L A G R A N G E,

C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

E X H O R T E R

December 3, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 South Townline Road
Route 4, Box 46
LaGrange, Indiana 46761
Telephone No. 463-3571

He who will not forgive others thereby burns the bridge over which he himself must pass.

A TRUE DISCIPLE

If you will follow Christ-----
When public opinion opposes,
When the church and state are hostile,
When "high society" disapproves,
When your devotion brings sneers and jeers,
When your fellow disciples turn back,
When your relatives frown,
When it means a personal loss,
When you must follow alone,
Then you are indeed HIS disciple!

—Selected

Some people feel we don't need prayer any more since we now have penicillin.

BIBLE TRAINING IS IMPORTANT

The Bible training one gets through a competent Bible school is an influence for good and can mean much--to the individual and to society. If we fail for only one generation to teach our children much harm can be done.

Max Jukes lived in New York. Neither he nor his wife believed in Christian training for themselves nor their children. A study has been conducted with 1,026 of their descendants as subjects.

The study shows that 300 died prematurely, 100 served prison terms averaging 13 years each, 190 were public prostitutes, 100 were drunkards, and the family cost the state \$1,200,000. As you might suspect they made no contribution to society. A great contrast to the Jukes family looms in the form of the Jonathan Edwards family. Edwards lived in New York, but here the similarity ends. He believed, as did his wife, in Christian training and from their marriage comes the revealing facts that of the 729 descendants studied, 300 were preachers, 65 became college professors, 13 served as university presidents, 60 were authors of good literature, 3 were U. S. Congressmen, and one became Vice President of the U. S. With the exception of Aaron Burr, a grandson who married a questionable character, the family did not cost the state a single dollar. What a tremendous difference. All because one believed in and participated in Bible study while the other did not so believe.

--Selected--

Characteristics that make for Success

"To be able to carry money without spending it.
To be able to bear an injustice without retaliating.
To be able to do one's duty without being watched.
To be able to keep at the job until it is finished.
To be able to make use of criticism without letting it whip you."

--Quoted--

I VOTED TO CLOSE THE CHURCH

Last Sunday I voted to close the church--not intentionally nor maliciously; but carelessly and thoughtlessly, lazily, indifferently I voted. Yes, I voted to close the open Bible that has been given us by many years of struggling, and by the blood of martyrs, who have died that we might have it to read. I voted for our minister to stop preaching the glorious truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I voted that the children of the Bible school be no longer taught the stories of the Bible. I voted for the voice of the congregation to be stilled and no longer heard in song. I voted for the darkness of superstition and degrading influence of sin, the blight of ignorance, and the curse of selfish greed once again to settle their damning load on the shoulders of an already overburdened world. Carelessly, lazily, indifferently I voted. For, you see, I could have gone and I should have gone, but I didn't. I stayed away from church last Sunday.

--Selected--

HINTS FOR IMPROVING REVERENCE

1. Bow your head fully during prayer.
2. Remember that God is present each time we meet for worship.
3. Arrive early at worship services. Meditate on the hymns or scripture before the worship begins.
4. If you must whisper during a service, whisper to God.
5. Remain at each worship period until the service is concluded.
6. Never jest about the Bible or God.
7. Be careful to spend your entire Lord's day in an appropriate manner.
8. During worship consciously avoid watching other people or their children.
9. Concentrate on the meaning of every song.

--Selected--

HERALD OF TRUTH OVER NBC NETWORK

I just received today (Dec 9) the announcement from the Highland Ave. Elders that the long sought for broadcast time over the nbc network has been made available and that the first broadcast can be heard on Feb 4th, 1968 at 8:30 a.m. over stations WELB (1380) Ft. Wayne and WTRC (1340) Elkhart. The Elders of the Highland Ave. congregation were confronted with an immediate decision from the president of the NBC Radio Network, on Dec. 1st. to either accept the offer(they had been begging for this offer for the sixteen years of broadcasting Herald Of Truth) or reject the offer, which would have closed the door to future negotiations. On great faith, and because of the great potential that it gives to the ministry of God's word, they accepted the offer. Now comes the momentous job of informing the brotherhood of this "once in a generation" opportunity and encouraging support necessary.

Brethren, can we imagine what the potential audience of 205 radio stations would be? (That's the number the NBC network now has and 21 of these are 50,000 watt stations -NBC has more of these giant transmitters than any other network) Think of the broadcast radius of WCWO in Ft. Wayne (a 50,000 watt station) then consider 21 of such stations plus 184 others heralding God's eternal message at a prime time of 8:30 a.m., in every time zone. This prime time over more powerful stations gives a far greater advantage over the 9:30 to 10:30 time available over a lower wattage local station that the brethren here were considering. I am personally moved at the effectual door that God has opened unto us and hope that all of us here will offer our support worthy of the wonderful opportunities opened unto us.

D. H.

Earl Gieseke
Route #4 Box 46
Lagrange, Indiana 46761

L A G R A N G E

C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

E X H O R T E R

December 10, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 South Townline Road
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LaGrange, Indiana 46761
Telephone No. 463-3571

COME AND
WORSHIP
REGULARLY

A TRUE DISCIPLE

If you will follow Christ--

When public opinion opposes,
When the church and state are hostile,
When "high society" disapproves,
When your devotion brings sneers and
jeers,
When your fellow disciples turn back,
When your relatives frown,
When it means a personal loss,
When you must follow alone,
Then you are indeed HIS disciple!

--Sel.

"Self improvement is man's largest room!"

ARE YOU A CAT OR A FOX?

A fox was boasting to a cat of its clever devices for escaping its enemies. "I have a whole bag full of tricks," he said, "which contains a hundred ways of escaping my enemies."

"I have only one," said the cat; "but I can generally manage with that". Just at that moment they heard the cry of a pack of hounds coming towards them, and the cat immediately scampered up a tree and hid herself among the boughs. "This is my plan," said the cat, "What are you going to do?" The fox thought first of one way and then another, and while he debated the hounds came nearer and nearer, and at last the fox in his confusion was caught up by the hounds and soon killed by the huntsmen. Miss Puss, who had been looking on, said:

"BETTER ONE SAFE WAY THAN A HUNDRED
ON WHICH YOU CANNOT RECKON."

This little story, taken from AESOP'S FABLES has a modern day application. Today, many people are willing to trust their salvation to a hundred different ways. Some believe that you can be saved by "faith only" or by "praying through" or by "works only" and a hundred other ways.

But, today too, it is better to trust in one safe way than a hundred on which you cannot reckon. Is there a safe way? Is there an unsafe way? Many people sincerely believe that a person will be saved simply because he or she is sincerely doing what they believe. According to Solomon in Proverbs 14:12 and 16:25, "There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end there of are the ways of death."

There may be a hundred ways, but I only know two ways; and one of them is not (cont.)

available for me. To those who read and understand this article there is only one safe way--the way of the cross. We who have reached the age of accountability can not depend on the first way. Now we must "work out our own salvation with fear and trembling." Is the Bible a sufficient guide? YES!!!! 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:3. Is there any other safe way? Not according to the Bible. Matt. 15:9 and Mark 7:7 tell us that worship that follows man's pattern is vain worship.

Jesus said that He was the way, the truth, and the life. John 14:6. He also said that the truth would make us free. I realize that the stand I take is not a popular one, but it is a safe one according to the Bible. Of course, if you want to please men there are other stands one may take, but please read Galatians 1:10 before taking any other stand.

I was told by a reliable source that one of the "true churches" told their preacher to leave the other churches' members alone. Can this mean anything other than the fact that these "Christians" believe the denominations to be right and that "their way" is just as safe as the one revealed in the Bible? God help the church who has "leaders" (?) like this. No wonder the church is so weak in some areas! If the man-made denominations can convince us that everything is simply a matter of opinion we will have lost the war. (Maybe, without even firing a shot!) What do you think? Are you a Fox or a Cat?

E. E. G.

THE ONE THING THAT IS WORSE THAN A QUITTER
IS THE MAN WHO IS AFRAID TO BEGIN.

News and Notes

There is to be a singing this afternoon at 3 o'clock at the Paulding Church building on Highway 127 at the South edge of Paulding, Ohio. We are invited.

In answer to the Herald of Truth request for support for the NBC broadcasting, the men here decided to send \$35.00 per mo., throughout 1968 plus the fifth Sunday contribution for December. We should now publicize the program in this area to take advantage of the opportunity which it gives us to reach people in their home.

(Cont. from front page)
is simple. We need only put on the spectacles of faith. Without them, the Holy Bible is only a masterpiece of literature. With them, the Holy Bible can transform each stumbling life into a triumphant masterpiece of God.

--Selected

(Cont. from page 3)
Does not Wesley's zeal put all of us to shame. Paul commands that we "always abound in the work of the Lord." I Cor. 15:58.)

Cecil Willis

Earl Gieseke
Route 4, Box 46
LaGrange, Indiana 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXMORTER

December 17, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Service	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
405 South Townline Road
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If every member of the church were just like me, what kind of a church would this church be? --Sel.

SPECTACLES OF FAITH

"Having eyes, see ye not?" Mark 8:18

When we look back upon the things that Jesus' first disciples were witnesses to, we frequently wonder, perhaps, at their blindness-their slowness to recognize and fully appreciate the glorious First Person workings of God happening right there before them.

We need not wonder. Equally great and glorious things are happening today, everywhere in the world. They are happening in our very midst, yet we easily miss them.

Two main factors account for such blindness; unpreparedness, or unawareness, of God's presence in the world; and unbelief. The remedy (cont.)

WANTED: BUSY PEOPLE

If you want a job done well, get a busy person to do it. Indolent, idle people never have time. Just as this principle is true in the business world, it is also true in the work of the Lord. God has always called busy people into his service. Peter and Andrew were casting a net into the sea when Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matt. 4:19.) Likewise James and John were busy fishermen, mending their net when the Lord called them. Matthew, a tax collector, was at his post of duty when summoned to follow the Lord and Saul was intensely busy persecuting the church.

When we go to the Old Testament, we find the same thing is true. Moses was called from tending Jethro's flocks to become leader of the Israelites. Elisha was busy plowing when summoned to the office of prophet. David was brought from the fields and flocks to be anointed king over God's people. Amos was working as a herdsman and a gatherer of sycamore fruit when divinely appointed to prophesy unto Israel.

When God wished to announce the birth of his Son, he chose to release the news to the shepherds busily engaged watching over their flocks by night. The Scriptures abound with illustrations of the same fact. God uses busy people to accomplish his purpose.

In this twentieth century age in which we have more and more leisure time, let us be busy serving God and man, using every opportunity to do good. As the inspired apostle exhorted, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." (I Cor. 15:58.)

--Selected

SUPPOSE

Suppose December the 25th, were the birthday of Christ. What do you imagine Christ would say were we to ask him what he would like for his birthday. I am certain that his words would include "Feed my Sheep," for as I am certain his concern remains daily for the lost souls that are dying in sin. His most joyous gift would be for their being brought to repentance. "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." (Luke 15:7.)

May I suggest a resolution even though it might be a couple of weeks early from the New Year. Let us start now, in our spirit of giving, to channel more money for the spreading of the gospel of Christ, channel more help for the needy, and channel more thoughts and prayers in behalf of every sin-sick soul accountable to God, and chargeable to us. Now, would be a wonderful time to start it and all the next year, would be a wonderful time to keep it up. "Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matt. 25:40)

D. H.

John Wesley traveled two hundred and fifty thousand miles on horseback, averaging twenty miles a day for forty years, produced four hundred books, knew ten languages. At eighty-three he was annoyed that he could not read more than fifteen hours a day without hurting his eyes, and at eighty-six he was ashamed that he could not preach more than twice a day. He complained in his diary that there was an increasing tendency to lie in bed until 5:30 in the morning.

(cont.)

I think you did the right thing letting him "sleep in" this morning. It's bad enough for old folk to have to listen to this mess. I guess you heard the neighbors got a new Color set last week. Boy was it good last night. Best stop in town and have one sent out next week. You'll get the money somewhere. You can always say you bought it so you could watch the Herald of Truth in color. So what if you don't ever watch it in black and white. Everything is better in color. Be sure and vote against any raise in the support of programs in the business meeting. You aren't made out of money. These people need to help themselves. Well, the old winabag is finally finished. Be sure and go by and shake the simpleton's hand and tell him how much you enjoyed the sermon. Well, see you next Sunday morning. Oh yes, I had forgotten about the company coming. Well, after all one must treat his friends well."

ASIDE: "Well that one is mine. He never heard a word the preacher said. He was thinking about the the weather when the communion was passed. He does not realize that the place we are going together is my home. His son hasn't been to "worship" in weeks. He can switch from a prayer to cursing without missing a word. Now that's the kind of people I need. His wife is about the same. She spent half the time deciding what she would wear to the cocktail party tomorrow night. The rest of the time she spent wondering if the meatloaf would burn before she got back home. They haven't heard a sermon in years. He has cut his giving by about 800% since I started working on him. Not bad. The fool. He doesn't hear the prayers to the Enemy on his behalf. But if I can still keep him thinking he is better than half the members I don't need to worry about losing him to the enemy."

Any incidents or discriptions in this article that resemble any you may have experienced or heard of are purely intentional.

Earl Gieseke
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LaGrange, Indiana 46761

LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

December 24, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship Services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship	7:30 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Study	7:30 P. M.

Earl Gieseke, Minister
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COME AND
WORSHIP
THE LORD

THERE'S MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

Some of the great plays of the past used the "stage whisper" to let the audience in on all that was transpiring on the stage as well as what was in the person's mind. Of course, the other person on the stage did not "hear" what was being said "aside" to the listening audience. Let's listen to both the things said and the things thought by Satan as he talks to different people:

Satan to parent: "Don't be too strict on the youngest. Remember, you too were young once. Read plenty of books on child psychology, but don't be a beast and beat the child. Always side with the child against the teachers and other adults. You don't want him to think you don't love him."

ASIDE: "Let the little monster grow up without discipline and soon he will be firmly entrenched in my camp. Then you will never get him back, even though you may realize your mistake. (Cont.)

He will be mine forever. Don't correct him in the highchair and I'll reserve an electric one for him. Let him go with the crowd."

Satan to Teen: "Now the time has come to have some "real fun" for yourself. Cut the apron strings. Be popular! Sow a few wild oats. Remember, when you are older you can think about becoming a Christian. Then you can come home from "worship" and criticize everyone that took part in the services. Oh yes, don't forget to smoke with the gang; also take an occasional drink. After all, the "famous" people of the world do. The Bible doesn't condemn drinking; only drunkenness. Be broadminded."

ASIDE: "If I can get you to have "real fun" without stopping to ask what it means you will soon be mine. Don't stop to ask what I mean by "popularity". Don't stop and ask the results of sowing wild oats. You stupid fool! If I can get you to delay your becoming a Christian a few years I'll harden your conscience until the most earnest plea will leave you untouched and smirking at the silly preacher. TeeHee. I'm glad you don't know that my house is full of those who drank and smoked a "little". Ha! Ha! I could show you a pretty cageful in my kingdom."

Satan to Preacher: Don't you think you are being a little hard on them. Why don't you ease up a little. You will drive them away from the church. Praise them for their piety. Tell them how much better they are than the other churches. Forget about preaching on being like Christ. No one can make it anyway. Preach more on the war. Get your name in the paper by criticism of the rulers. Try to be more popular and I'll get you one of the biggest congregations in the state. I know one "quite well" that is looking for an orator. Not too much of this fire and brimstone bit; it's a little old-fashioned. Preach a little more Xmas and Easter."

ASIDE: "If I can get you "off the people's back" I may be able to get to them. Boy! If I can get you to praise them for their piety my biggest problem will be over. Some of them are already "puffed up" now. If I can get more of you to preach on war and politics my job will be easier. Anything is better

than preaching on Christ and Him crucified. That Paul was constantly harping on that theme. If it wasn't that it was righteousness, temperance and judgment to come. He almost got Felix, Festus and Agrippa with that theme, but I whispered in their ears to put it off until another day. I can't combat that kind of preaching. It scares me! I almost had Peter too, but he turned and saw the Enemy at the wrong time and went back to him. I'm glad there aren't many like those two and Job. That Job!! Now there's one for the record. Even a nagging wife didn't help my cause there. Usually if I can plant one of my agents in the camp it helps my cause, but not with Job."

Satan to Member: "What's the matter with you? Put that ten dollars back in your pocket and go ahead and put those two ones in like you decided before that fool talked about all this nonsense about the Enemy loving a cheerful giver. That's your money. You worked for it. Take it and enjoy it. And listen, I've got a little tip for you on how to save money. When you go on a trip take all your contribution with you, but when you get there you can pretend that you are still supporting the "good work" at home. You can still count it off on your taxes. It is almost impossible to check up on church donations. You stick with me and we will go places together. Never mind what that fool preacher says. He is only after your money. He probably wants a raise so he can buy a new car. Speaking of new cars, don't you like the looks of the '68s? Now, by cutting your contribution in half you could probably swing the deal on a new one this year. Isn't that a stupid looking hat that old bag has on down there? Look over there; I'll bet that came from a second hand store. Isn't that a lousy sermon? That song leader sure picks some lousy songs and then pitches them so no one can sing them. Listen to that kid down there. What's the matter with that mother? Now if she had left the kid home until he was old enough to behave like you did it would be a much quieter service. Maybe a person could get a little sleep. (That is if that preacher would quiet down a little.) Saw your son at the dance last night.

WHEN ROVER TURNED POSSUM AND BOOMERRANGED

Once there were two church brothers and they did hate.

One had a dog named Rover, which had died of late. Both brother "A" and "B" thought possum was quite a treat.

So "A" said, "I'll fix Rover like a possum for "B" to eat."

So he took the meat with a friendly face and smile, With hate simmering underneath all the while.

"WE, two friends, my brother, we really should be, To show my love, I've brought this possum for thee."

Brother "B" thanked him kindly and accepted the gift,

Glad that between them there was no longer a rift, But brother "B" was called out of town that day; So he said, "I'll have to give the possum away."

Brother "B" had a friend "C" which liked possum too. So "B" said, "I'll give it to him; that's what I'll do,"

By Chance "C" invited "A" for dinner that very night, And they both feasted on that possum to their taste's delight.

But as they were finishing the last tidbit, "C" told "A" how he came in possession of it. "Twas a gift from my friend brother "B" said he. "Who also had received it through another's charity."

Then brother "A" suddenly turned as white as a sheet, Knowing that it was dead Rover he really did eat. Hand over mouth, he eased back from the table, And headed for the barn, away out back of the stable.

There in his despair he asked Rover for this last encore; "Rover, you've never failed to come when I've called before."

"Brother-in-Law to the Church --Selected

. . . A strange phrase. What could it mean? A man once said he had seen many men who were only brothers-in-law to the church. By this he meant that there were many men whose wives were members of the church; they themselves were not. Too many men are satisfied to let their wives do all the praying and church going while they attend to business and temporal things.

A man like this once dreamed that he died and went to the gates of heaven. He tried to enter and the gate keeper said: "Who are you?"

He then began to tell the gatekeeper how his wife prayed, and how she had gone to church, and what a good Christian she was.

"But you can't go to heaven because your wife prayed, and was a good Christian," said the gatekeeper.

"But my wife prayed for me, and went to church for me," said the man.

"Very well, then," said the gatekeeper, "she has gone to heaven for you, too."

Friends, I know some very fine men in this city too, but the best I can say for them is that they are only brothers-in-law to the church.

So don't fail to come now, as I call you this last time."

Thus with "A" in grief and agony, we end this little rhyme.

For I am sure that you have grasped the lesson to learn,

That sin is a boomerang that is bound to return. So always do that which is good and never do spite, That whatever returns, will always be, to your lasting delight.

by Robert R. Page

ERE SERVICES BEGIN

Would we a little quieter grow,
ere services begin?

If, suddenly we chanced to see
our Savior walking in?

And would He speak unto us
"Sweet peace I bring to you,"

Would we continue talking
If he stood in our view?

Or would we stop and meditate
and cease to be so loud?

If we could see his pierced hands
and know He's in the crowd?

Why doubt that he is with us?

Does not His word insist?

"If you have gathered in My Name
there I AM IN YOUR MIDST."

Selected

Remember: Our 5th Sunday contribution is for
Herald of Truth.

(cont. from front page)

to the teaching of Christ on liberality, that I
can fail to give as prospered and yet Christ will
bless me. I'm betting that I can ignore the lost
about me, "Wink" and sin and still drift to heaven.

Yes, I'm a gambler--the most reckless type. I
am gambling against impossible odds with my soul
and the souls of my children at stake, for you see--
I'm a lukewarm Christian.

--Selected--

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LAGRANGE

CHURCH OF CHRIST

EXHORTER

December 31, 1967

Schedule of Regular Services

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 A. M.
Worship services	10:30 A. M.
Evening Worship	7:00 P. M.
Thursday Evening Bible Service	8:00 P. M.

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"Folks who do their
religious duties by
proxy must be will-
ing to take their
rewards in the same
way."

A GAMBLER'S CONFESSION!!

I am a gambler. Oh, not the kind that frequents places behind "closed doors" in some secluded spot or in the "back room" of some night club. I'm not that kind of a gambler. Such gambling as this is "peanuts" to the gambling that I do. You see, I gamble with my soul as the stake. I am betting that I can live a life of "do-nothing" indifference, a life of neglect of those things of God and still be saved.

I'm gambling with the souls of my children as a stake. I am betting their souls that I can let them miss Bible classes, worship services, and mid-week meeting and that they will still have enough wisdom to guide their own lives to the Lord. I am betting that I can get sufficient knowledge without attending study classes, that I can remain indifferent (cont. back page)