

## CHRISTIANS DON'T WALLOW!

The story of a lamb and its mother. It seems that the lamb passed a pig pen each morning on the way with its mother to the pasture. Watching the pigs wallow in the mud seemed like fun and on an especially hot day the lamb asked his mother if he could jump the fence and wallow in the cool mud. She replied, "NO." Then the lamb asked the usual question, "Why?" The mother just said, "Sheep don't wallow."

This did not satisfy the lamb. He felt that she had "put him down," exercised force which she shouldn't have, etc. As soon as the mother was out of sight, the lamb ran to the pig pen and jumped the fence. He was soon feeling the cool mud on his feet, then on his legs and soon on his stomach. After a few moments he decided he had better go back to his mother but found he couldn't. He was stuck! Mud and wool do not mix. His pleasure had become his prison. He was hopelessly bound by his own folly. He cried out and was rescued by a kindly farmer.

When cleaned and returned to the fold, the lamb's mother said again, "Remember -- sheep don't wallow!"

Sin is like that. It looks so nice, so easy to escape whenever we wish, but it is not so. Pleasure becomes our prison.

CHRISTIANS DON'T WALLOW! 2 Peter 2:14-22.

LaGrange Church of Christ  
R.R.5, Box 13  
LaGrange, IN 46761

### Sunday

Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
Assembly	10:30 a.m.
Assembly	6:00 p.m.

### Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 p.m.
-------------	-----------

Evangelist :

Roy Noble - 463-4100 (hm.)  
463-3571 (off.)

-WE LOVE YOU-  
THANK YOU FOR VISITING TODAY !



# TRANSFORMER

"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)

July 3, 1988

## OUR FREEDOM

It is during this week that much of our nation celebrates it's freedom. While living here in America all of my life, I am unable to have the pride and feelings that many have within them, largely due to having lived in mostly peace-time and having never been called to give up my life for this country. While it is true that I enjoy the conveniences of living here just as anyone else, I often wonder if all our celebrating and hoopla on July 4th is because of true pride that we are free, all the time giving the credit to God as many of our forefathers would have done, or just our way of saying as a nation to the rest of the world, "Ha, look at us now, you communist!" (or starving, third-world country, or ignorant natives, or any other foreigner you wish to insert here).

Is our pride in true freedom from oppression, or that we have the ability as people to get away with just about anything that we wish, with God being the farthest thing from our minds? It's interesting to watch when the life stories of immigrants are often unfolded in the media, as you watch with tears the story of their flight from bondage to America, often risking their lives to get here, and then notice their lives after having lived here a few years. What does our society do to them? As a nation, do we take them in and say, "You are now in a country where God has given you freedom. Without Him it would be impossible, so always give Him the credit and serve Him", or do we do nothing and watch them climb the corporate ladder, or live for materialism as they see us do?

While we may not live in a God-fearing and God-serving nation as a whole, we still have reason to celebrate every day for the true freedom that we can enjoy as Christians. The

rest of America will never understand what true freedom is unless they see it from the children of God! Victory over death surpasses victory over another country full of lost human souls any day of the week! Winning a few physical wars over other men is one thing; but constantly winning battles over Satan is quite another!

The church in Rome had a problem understanding their freedom also. Unlike immigrants to America, the Romans were being told by Paul that they were being set free in order to become slaves all over again! (Rom. 6:7,18) Instead of thousands of men giving their lives for the Roman's freedom, Paul says only one man died! I mean, we should combine Father's Day with Independence Day, because Paul says this was a battle won by a Father and Son team (Rom. 8:2-3; Luke 23:34)! Christ did not set us free from denominational preachers or loud organs in another church building. He did not set us free from being around sinful people and being exposed to negative people. He did not give His life so that we might be able to come together when it is convenient in a building and feel that we have somehow appeased Him. He gave His life so we could be free from the binding power of sin in our lives (Rom. 7:18-25)! The Galatians had the same problem (Gal. 5:1,4-6,13-15).

Oh that we might grow to put as much celebrating energy into our assemblies and Christian lives as we do into our firecrackers and watermelon!

-Roy

\* \* \* \* \*

SISTER - TO - SISTER

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." Phillipians 2:4

This week, let us all put this verse to use in our lives. Take a look around you and listen to what others are saying and seek to serve them.

1. Offer a ride to the doctor.
2. Visit those of our family who are in the hospital.
3. Take a meal to a sister who's not feeling well.
4. Carry some flowers to a shut-in.
5. If a sister is down and troubled, take her out to eat and listen to her.
6. Learned something new from God's Word?...call a sister and share it with her!
7. Help pull weeds from a sisters garden and get to know her.
8. Know of someone who's dieting, working on a project, etc? - Call them and encourage them.
9. Know someone who could use some clothes?...Share some with them.

10. Invite a sister to your home and get to know her interests.

(You may be surprized)

Make your own list. Don't allow Satan to talk you out of serving someone again this week.

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."

Colossians 3:17

-Barbara

\* \* \* \* \*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MILLERS MERRY MANOR SINGING - changed from the first Sunday to every 5th Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

CAMP INDOGAN - Anyone that wants to go to Camp Indogan Sunday night after services, we may use the camp Sunday night and Monday. Bring you own bedding supplies and food and come join in the fellowship.

- Care Group 4 will be meeting at the camp instead of the Copelands. If you are unable to spend the night, come spend the day with us.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS - will be meeting at Thelma Hoggatt's on Tuesday morning form 9:30 - 11:30.

25TH ANNIVERSARY - All are invited to share in the 25th Anniversary Open House for Jim & Sharon Pieratt on Saturday, July 9, from 2 to 5 p.m. in the fellowship hall here at the building.

HOUSING NEEDED - Anyone knowing of available housing for the Hutto's, see Dean.

PRAYERS - Jim Henson will be having open heart surgery on Wednesday at Parkview. Admitted Tues. 9 a.m. Surgery 7:30 Wed. Surgery will take 5 hours, recuperation 2 hours.  
- Francis Springer recuperating from a broken tail-bone.

We pray that God will bless these two and any others who are suffering at this time, with a speedy recovery.

- Continue to pray for the Stueben County Church as they are having some severe relationship problems at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**MEN'S MEETING** - There will be a Men's Meeting tonight immediately following services. Plan on spending a little longer than usual since we will be re-evaluating the new budget along with the regular business.

**SECRET SISTER BANQUET** - The Secret Sister Banquet will be July 15 at 6:00 p.m. at the Country Squire Restaurant in Wolcottville. Those needing rides or directions meet at the building at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$8.00 or \$0 if you can't afford it. Let Sally May know today and turn in your money to her.

**OOPS!** - We're sorry for overlooking Andrew Oakley, Donna Oakley and Robert Sowles names in the bulletin for the wonderful job they did with the puppets for VBS. THANKS!

**PRAYERS** - Jim Henson is recovering from open heart surgery in Parkview Hospital in Ft. Wayne.

Zella Bellaire and family in the loss of her grandson, Jeremy Bellaire, in an auto accident Monday.

- Francis Springer in her recuperation from a broken tail-bone.

- Faye Forbus (Austin Copeland's mother), from Paducah, Kentucky had a light stroke, caused by a clogged artery. They will be treating it by medicine.

Remember these and any others not mentioned who are in need of your prayers at this time.

**LaGrange Church of Christ**  
R.R.5, Box 13  
LaGrange, IN 46761

**Sunday**

**Bible Class** 9:30 a.m.  
**Assembly** 10:30 a.m.  
**Assembly** 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**

**Bible Class** 7:00 p.m.

**Evangelist :**

**Roy Noble - 463-4100 (hm.)**  
**463-3571 (off.)**

**-WE LOVE YOU-  
THANK YOU FOR VISITING TODAY !**

# The TRANSFORMER

"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)

July 10, 1988

"FOLLOW ME"

"Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant will also be, My Father will honor the one who serves me."  
John 12:26

Many people today really believe they are following Jesus by simply attending a church service, being religious, or by being a "pretty good person". I am so glad that Jesus does not just ask us to follow Him but also makes it clear to us what He expects of those who do choose to follow after Him. Following Jesus is not always easy but it is always rewarding. Following Jesus takes time and testing but will ultimately lead us in triumph.

TIME

Jesus wanted His disciples to be with Him. He loved to spend time with them. Jesus called them to follow Him (Mark 1:17). From that time on He walked (Mark 1:21, ate (John 4:31), taught (Matthew 5:1), and even slept (Luke 8:23) with them. Jesus knew that for the disciples to really know Him and grow to trust Him completely with their lives, they needed to spend lots of time with Him. In the same way today as we try to understand Jesus and who He is we also will never really know Jesus unless we spend time with Him. Many people know a lot about Jesus, but never really get to know Jesus Himself. We need to spend lots of time with Jesus through His Word and through prayer. How much effort have you really given to know Jesus? If you really want to get to know Jesus here are three practical things you should do:

- (1) Begin by reading one of the Gospels. Take at least 30 minutes each day.
- (2) Pray every day that God will help you to know Jesus through His Word.

- (3) Ask someone you know who has a great relationship with Jesus to help you study the Bible and really get to know Jesus.

#### TESTING

Jesus spent time with His disciples teaching them and sharing His life with them but there came a time in their relationship when He laid it out to them exactly what it would mean for them to have a lasting relationship with Him. In Luke 14:25-33, Jesus turned to the crowds who were "following" Him and told them what it really means to follow Him. Jesus did not want a bunch of people following Him around but He wanted a commitment from those who would really be His followers. Jesus expected them to love Him more than any other relationship (verse 27). Today, Jesus expects the same type of commitment from us. In order to be a disciple and follower of Jesus, we must be willing to surrender our lives to Him. We must be willing to not only know Jesus' teachings, but to wholeheartedly follow them. Every decision we make should be measured by the question "What would Jesus do?" This type of commitment will test our hearts and separate the true followers of Jesus from those who simply want to hang around hoping to receive the benefits yet never contributing to the relationship.

#### TRIUMPH

In John 12:26 Jesus said that God will honor those who follow Him. What an exciting promise! Though there are great costs in following Jesus, they in no way compare to the rewards we receive by having a close relationship with Him. In Mark 10:28-31, Jesus told His disciples about the blessings they would receive. He said "No one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, fields--and with them persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life." Followers of Jesus will not only receive blessings in this life such as deep relationships with other Christians - "fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers" and "children" (those we help to come into a relationship with Jesus) - but also the promise of living with God, Jesus and His Spirit eternally in heaven. What an incredible promise!

Following Jesus is the most exciting thing a person could ever want to do. Jesus will help you deal with the problems of life, give you tremendous blessings, challenge you incredibly, and help you to make changes in your life and character that you never thought were possible. Make a decision to really follow Jesus, commit your life to that decision and "buckle your seatbelt" for the most exciting and challenging life you could ever imagine - for eternity!

\* \* \* \* \*

#### SISTER - TO - SISTER

This Saturday we will reveal ourselves to the sister we've been a secret to for 6 months. Aren't you glad that we are not "secretly sisters" to each other all of the time?! We'd never receive an encouraging word, a hug, a praise, a compliment, a good deed or gentle instruction from one another.

After stopping to think, maybe some of us are staying a secret to the other sisters. Do you not want your sisters to know the real you? Yes, you sin and fall short of living Gods plan for your life. So do I and all your other sisters. Keeping up appearances that everything is great and there is no struggle in your life is tiresome. We can probably succeed in giving this pretense at least the three times we assemble, but it forces us to stay distant, a secret, the rest of the week. You know you hurt inside. It's been there for years. The Lords remedy is simple.

Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray.  
Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise.  
Is anyone of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

James 5:13-16

Swallow your pride. Step out this week and reveal yourself to a sister who loves you, will minister to you and will share such a close relationship to build you up in the Lord. You'll be doing the same for her.

May the Lords blessing be upon each one of you dear sisters as you grow in the Lord.

-Barbara

\* \* \* \* \*



SMILE

The man walked into a public place with both ears bandaged. Someone had to ask why.

He explained, "I am watching the bowl game on TV and my wife is ironing nearby. She leaves for a moment, placing the iron on the board, and the phone rings. I grab the hot iron and put it to my ear, thinking it is the telephone."

"But, what happened to the other ear?"

"I hadn't any more than hung up when the man calls back."

\* \* \* \* \*

LAST MINUTE ANNOUNCEMENT:

Buelah Gray passed away Friday evening. (Lois Henson's mother). The funeral is being handled by Frurip-May. Visitation is Monday, 7/18, 2-5 pm & 7-9 pm. The funeral will be Tuesday morning, 7/19, at 10:00 am. Graveside service & burial will be at Ormis Cemetary. Ormis is approx. 12 miles south of Ligonier, on the extreme southern edge of Noble county, half-way between Hwys. 109 & 5.

"JESUS TOOK TIME TO BLEED...WE MUST TAKE THE TIME TO READ"

LaGrange Church of Christ  
R.R.5, Box 13  
LaGrange, IN 46761

Sunday  
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
Assembly 10:30 a.m.  
Assembly 6:00 p.m.

Evangelist :

Roy Noble - 463-4100 (hm.)  
463-3571 (off.)

-WE LOVE YOU-

# the TRANSFORMER

"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)

July 17, 1988

"BECOMING A DISCIPLE"

Becoming a disciple and maturing as a Christian is an immeasurable joy and privilege. It involves not only a change in actions but, more importantly, a profound transformation in which our hearts and attitudes become more like those of Christ.

SURRENDER. One of the most exciting aspects of becoming a disciple is the opportunity to have a brand new life. Ironically, what happens is that although we add lots of good things to our lives as new Christians, we fail to truly surrender our old life to God. II Corinthians 5:18 tells us that in Christ we are new creations, that the old life is gone. When we are baptized, it is as if we traded in our old, dented car for a shiny new one. The lie Satan wants us to believe, however, is that our old, dented car got a few repairs but is basically the same old car with the same basic problems. Are you truly a new creation? Or do you say things like "I've always been that way" or "I have never been able to change that". I praise God that He really can change people from the inside out. We, as disciples, need to recognize ungodly patterns such as self-destructiveness, excessive guilt, emotionalism and "pet sins" not as inevitable behavior, but as Satan's trap from which Christ has already set us free.

SACRIFICE. It is easy to view becoming a disciple as simply doing more "good things" while still being very protective of our time, our career and our reputation. If we harbor these attitudes, how will we respond to being asked to "give up everything" we have (Luke 14:33) and "make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)? But is that not exactly what Jesus said we needed to do to be a disciple? What has your salvation cost you? Where has your salvation taken you? Just like

a fine diamond, that which is precious is costly. Similarly, just as we treat our costume jewelry with less care, we will fail to truly appreciate a Christian life that costs us little. The last thing a disciple should do is protect himself from struggles and sacrifices. Persecutions, long prayers, fasting and pouring out our lives for God and others are the price we are privileged to pay to stand firm to the end.

SECURITY. With God, we search for the true love found only in God but upon finding it, we have problems accepting it. This insecurity can be eradicated from our lives when we understand the depth of the statement "What good is it for a man to gain the whole world and yet lose or forfeit his very self?" (Luke 9:25). Jesus is saying that even the most lowly soul is worth more than all the riches in all the world. And God confirmed that sentiment by sending Jesus to die for us "while we were still sinners" (Romans 5:8). How can we feel insecure if we truly grasp this profound love, memorizing, meditating on and claiming God's promises. So much of feeling secure in God's love is a decision to believe not what we tell ourselves and not what the world tells us but what God tells us. We need to feel so secure in God's love that doubting it will be as uncalled for as doubting our name or birthday. There is no more God can do to prove His love. But will we accept it? Let us surrender, sacrifice and enjoy the security of being in Christ.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### SISTER - TO - SISTER

This is the time of year for "Garage Sales". In newspapers from most "Small Towns, USA" the classifieds are loaded with columns of eager families awaiting the day to rid themselves of the junk they've accumulated and become a little richer!

As sisters in Christ, we need to take some inventory of what we've accumulated or maybe never got rid of after becoming a child of God.

1. "The moving sale": "Will sell till it's gone" is the caption in one ad. Sisters, we need to apply some dedicated persistence in ridding ourselves of those things we can't take with us on our Christian journey. At the point of our decision to follow Christ we should have counted the cost of moving - from an earthly woman to a spiritual woman. II Cor. 5:17 makes it plain: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

Some of us are still clinging to our old self and ways. Perhaps the price is too high?!! "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father, mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters - yes even his own life - he cannot be my disciple." (Luke 14:26)

To move forward in your Christian life, Jesus must come FIRST. You'll see that getting rid of putting yourself, physical family and your worldly desires before Christ will allow you to move freely, with no ties from the world to keep pulling you back.

2. "The garage sale": This sale usually consists of toasters that don't work, stained clothing, chairs with the legs glued on and a box of Harlequin Romances.

How about this list from Col. 3:8-10a, "But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self..." Time to start hauling that junk right out of your life!

3. "The multi-family sale": Some old, some new - a little of everything. How true in the church with all our individual personalities, various convictions and separate goals! We've got to get this house cleaned out or no one will want to come to see us.

Some of us will have to give, some take. Some serve, some be served. some repent, some forgive.

"If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from His love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then having the same love, being one in Spirit and purpose." (Phil. 2:1-2)

Make your commitment to Jesus for life. Put to death those things which make you weak. See your brothers and sisters as the family God planned for us to be. He needs us to be unified in Him and in our purpose as Christians. He's given us the task to love Him and men so that we may all be with Him in that heavenly home.

There won't be any Garage Sales there! He makes us exceedingly rich!

-Barb

\* \* \* \* \*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- THANK YOU - The Hutto's wish to thank everyone for the House Warming Shower we had for them on Wednesday evening. A special thanks to Jane Gensic and Patti Copeland for serving refreshments.
- PRAYERS - Jim Henson is at home recovering from his surgery.
- Francis Springer fell again while in Hammond, IN. Nothing broken and going on to Georgia.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

4TH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP - There will be a fellowship following this evenings service. Care Group 3 will be in charge of clean-up.

BUDGET MEETING - Immediately after Fellowship this evening for members only.

THANK YOU - Thank you for your love in contributions made to the "Food Basket" located in the lobby. This is available to meet the needs of those in the community outside the church, but is more available especially for those members in need within the congregation here. We would like to build it up enough to sufficiently meet needs that arise during the end-of-the-year holiday season as they seem to be greater at that time. It's such a blessing to receive help when we need it - yet how much more are we blessed when we give it. Acts 20:35

PRAYERS - Remember the Hensons and the Pieratts in the loss of their loved one.  
- Jim Henson recovering from surgery.  
Remember these and any others who are in need of our prayers.

\* \* \* \* \*

"JESUS TOOK TIME TO BLEED; WE MUST TAKE TIME TO READ"

LaGrange Church of Christ  
R.R.5, Box 13  
LaGrange, IN 46751

Sunday  
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
Assembly 10:30 a.m.  
Assembly 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday  
Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Evangelist :

Roy Noble - 463-4100 (h.m.)  
463-3571 (off.)

-WE LOVE YOU-



"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)

July 24

CONSUMED WITH ZEAL

"Zeal for your house will consume me." John 2:17

As we look at the life of Jesus Christ, we are amazed at the high level of intensity in which He existed. He possessed a constant, single-minded focus and an unparalleled maturity. He was consumed with a zeal that was unquenchable. That zeal can be reproduced in our hearts if we:

- (1) Know the Father like Jesus did;
- (2) Are committed to righteousness like Jesus was; and
- (3) Are focused on our purpose.

ZEAL FOR THE FATHER

Jesus had a deep heart-felt zeal for the Father. Everything He did flowed naturally from His relationship with God. As Jesus arrived in Jerusalem for the Passover, He found men selling cattle, sheep and doves and exchanging money in the temple courts. These people had not just started these practices that day. A slow progression of compromises over a long period of time had brought them to where they were.

Why is it that Jesus alone recognized that God's house had been defiled? Jesus had such intimate fellowship with God that He recognized what was wrong because He knew what was right. That which everyone else had come to accept as the norm was personally offensive to Jesus. If our own personal walk with God is not intense, we will see the same thing happen in our hearts that happened in the temple. Hebrews 5:7 says, "...he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears....". Does that describe your walk with God? There must be an emotional connection that takes place in our

daily quiet times and throughout the day. Too often our prayers become stale, surface, "grocery list" prayers rather than deep times of communication and fellowship. Let us be committed to putting our hearts into connecting with God and we can begin to have the zeal that Jesus had.

#### ZEAL FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

When Jesus saw men abusing the temple of God for their own selfish gains, His immediate response was to make a whip out of cords and drive them out. He could have just become exasperated and walked out, but He knew He was responsible to take action.

Today, we are the temple of the living God (II Corinthians 6:16). When we allow sin to exist in our hearts and in the hearts of our brothers and sisters, we are as offensive to God as the merchants and moneychangers who had defiled His holy temple. As Jesus was with them so we need to be with our hearts. We must take personal responsibility and act aggressively against sin. Too often we take a feather duster to our sin when we need to get serious and use a whip! Sin destroys the Kingdom. It is so deceitful that, before you realize, it has crept in and become an accepted and comfortable way of life. The heart is a storage place for every kind of evil practice. Each person has the capacity to commit even the vilest of sins. We must become zealous in eradicating these sins as soon as we are confronted with them by:

- (1) Committing to righteousness at all costs;
- (2) Allowing the Word to cut your heart;
- (3) Fasting and praying for God to break your heart;
- (4) Confessing daily - it should be painful!; and
- (5) Praying for strength in moments of weakness.

By facing our sin and taking action against it, we will prevent Satan from winning victories in our hearts.

#### ZEAL FOR HIS PURPOSE

The entire life of Jesus is surrounded by one common theme - death itself. No matter what situation He was found in, He was always focused on the lost world and thus the cross. He knew His purpose and was willing to totally spend Himself for it. Possessing the zeal and maturity of Christ means embracing the cross daily in our lives. II Corinthians 4:10 says, "We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body." Jesus never existed in comfort. A zealous Christian will never be a comfortable Christian. Every day we must lay our lives aside and become like Jesus, as a disciple; as a discipler; as a friend to the lost; as a servant and as a confronter of sin. The Kingdom needs Christians who will lead the way in zeal. Christians who refuse to give up no matter what the cost. May we become Christians consumed with the zeal that will compel us to reach the world with the gospel!

\* \* \* \* \*

#### SISTER - TO - SISTER

"Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." (Hebrews 11:1)

- "This is what the ancients were commended for." (Heb. 11:2)
- ..."By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did..." v.4a
  - ..."By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death." v. 5a
  - ..."By faith Noah warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family." v.7a
  - ..."By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going." v. 8
  - ..."By faith Abraham, even though he was past age - and Sarah herself was barren - was enabled to become a father..." v. 11a
  - ..."By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice." v. 17a
  - ..."By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born..." v. 23a
  - ..."By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land;..." v. 29a
  - ..."By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the people had marched around them for seven days." v. 30
  - ..."By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were not disobedient." v. 31

When was the last time you stepped out on faith? We become quite dependant on our ourselves to work life's situations out. The ones we feel somewhat unconfident of handling, we sort of avoid or go around.

The facts are plain and simple. We better not even try to take a step without faith being as the soles of our shoes.

"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him." Hebrews 11:6

Can you fill in the blank:

"By faith \_\_\_\_\_..."  
your name

Barb

\* \* \* \* \*



-Parents....how much time do you spend with your kids? Well, listen to one child's perspective....

JUST WHAT IS A grandmother?

The definition comes from Mary K. Kelly of Hot Springs, Arkansas.

The author is said to be a third-grader in Oakland, California.

"A grandmother is a lady who has no children of her own. She likes other people's little girls. A grandfather is a man grandmother.

"Grandmas don't have to do anything except be there. They are so old they shouldn't run. It is enough if they drive us to the market where the Pretend Horse is, and have lots of dimes.

"Usually grandmothers are fat, but not too fat to tie your shoes. They wear glasses and funny underwear. They can take their teeth out and gums off.

"They don't have to be smart only answer questions like 'Why do dogs hate cats?' They do not talk baby talk like visitors do because it is hard to understand. When they read to us they don't skip over anything or mind if it is the same story again.

"Everybody should try to have a grandmother, especially if you don't have a television, because Grandmas are the only grownups who have got time."

-Charles Allbright

\* \* \* \* \*

"JESUS TOOK TIME TO BLEED; WE MUST TAKE TIME TO READ"

LaGrange Church of Christ  
R.R.5, Box 13  
LaGrange, IN 46761

Sunday

Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
Assembly 10:30 a.m.  
Assembly 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Evangelist :

Roy Noble - 463-4100 (hm.)  
463-3571 (off.)

-WE LOVE YOU-  
THANK YOU FOR VISITING TODAY !

# The TRANSFORMER

"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)

July 31, 1988

## MODERN BIBLE SCENARIOS

After a Bible class, someone was discussing with me the importance of context on Bible study. "You have to take into consideration the cultural background of the day, as well as who was speaking and to whom he was speaking" the person noted. "Things aren't what they were in Bible days."

Although Bible principles are eternal and applicable to every generation, I heartily agree that things aren't what they were in Bible times. On deeper reflection, I wondered what would happen in our day were certain Bible scenarios to be revisited....

I Corinthians 5 - The disfellowshipped fornicator would have sued the church for invasion of privacy and defamation of character.

2 Corinthians 8 - The Macedonia church would have been declared a cult and her members deprogrammed.

2 Samuel 11 - David's sin with Bathsheba would have been on the front page of the National Enquirer (with photos on page 12).

Romans 1 - Homosexuals would be allowed air time on the Donahue Show to rebut Paul's allegations against them.

Ephesians 5 - Paul's tent-making business would have been picketed by feminists protesting his "sexist" views on women and marriage.

Acts 6 - The Grecian widows who were neglected would have received Food Stamps.

Exodus 12 - The Israelites would have remained in Egypt due to lack of available visas.

Matthew 5-7 - A planning committee somewhere would have tried to charge a registration fee for each one attending the "Sermon on the Mount lectureship Series".

luke 1:41 - Some would have recommended that Elizabeth get an abortion due to her "difficult" pregnancy.

Yes, times have changed since Bible days, and the change is not all good. Things will be better only when we let God's Word speak to our needs in this generation. After all, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but...."

-Randall Medlin  
The Beam of Light  
Baldwin church of Christ  
Fayetteville, Arkansas

\* \* \* \* \*

SISTER - TO - SISTER

"Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up..."  
I Thess. 5:11

In the context of this passage, Paul is telling the people in Thessalonica to encourage each other because the return of the Lord will be soon. A dictionary definition of the word encourage is "to inspire with courage, spirit, or hope; to spur on". Don't we all need to be "spurred on" so that we grow and mature in Christ? (Heb. 10:24-25) The primary means we have for encouraging others is the use of God's Word. Build each other up with the truths and hope it contains; remind each other of God's promises. Use God's truth to provide one another with assurance and security.

Other methods of encouragement, such as a kind word, a smile, a hug, a show of support and understanding, and "I love you", etc. cost very little on the part of the giver, but can mean so much to the receiver.

The next time you think about dropping someone a note to tell them what a good job they've done, or how much they encourage you, don't neglect to do it. You know, the Devil doesn't want us to build up struggling mothers or lonely widows or the unmarried. He doesn't want us to build up preachers and teachers. It's much easier for sin to get a foot in the door when we are troubled and discouraged and think no one cares.

Let us resolve to be sensitive to the needs of our sisters and encourage them when we have the opportunity to do so. Let us build each other up so that we are secure in our place in God's family.

-Barb

\* \* \* \* \*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS - 1	Tim Hughes	11	Dean Hoggatt
2	Meghann Hostetler	15	Becky Sowles
2	Amber Budzyk	27	Bryan Leslie
3	Penny Oakley	27	David Sowles
7	Sue Morgan	29	Hazel Miller

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES - 5 Harold & Janet DePriest  
12 Bob & Kathy Sowles

CAMP NEWS - Kim Sowles received the runner-up Star Camper Award for the Intermediate Session at Camp Indogan last week. Way to go Kim!!

ATTENTION TEACHERS - Please leave the Bibles in the auditorium so they can be used during worship service. If you need Bibles for your classes please see the education committee. We have plenty. Thank you.

MEMBERS - There will be a meeting this morning following services to discuss a Bible study and sharing time at Joe Oakley's weekly for members.

PRAYERS - Margaret Tucker is suffering from shingles.  
- Ryan Kimpel went into the hospital Friday with pneumonia.  
- Gloria Cunningham (Barb's sister) is having tests done.  
- Harold DePriest is in Lutheran Moellering Unit #215 due to injuries received in a fall. He is in alot of pain at this time.  
- Jim Henson is still recovering at home following his heart surgery.  
- David Sowles is moving to Gary to work in the iron workers union. Bonnie and Amber will continue to live in Howe.  
- Remember these in your daily prayers as well as any others who might not have been mentioned. Cards and visits are welcomed also.

Prayers continued

- Gloria Cunningham, Barbara's sister, tests were negative, but still don't know what is causing problems.
- David Sowles' address is on bulletin board.
- Mary Ann Johnston will be traveling to Texas this week.

Remember these and any others you know that are in need of your prayers at this time.

\* \* \* \* \*

The bones in the body  
Are two hundred or more;  
But for sorting out people  
We need only four.

WISH-BONE PEOPLE:

They hope for they long for,  
They wish for and sigh;  
They want things to come, but  
Aren't willing to try.

FUNNY-BONE PEOPLE:

They laugh, grin and giggle,  
Smile, twinkle the eye;  
If work is a joke, sure,  
They'll give it a try!

JAW-BONE PEOPLE:

They scold, jaw and sputter,  
They froth, rave and cry;  
They're long on the talk, but  
They're short on the try.

BACK-BONE PEOPLE:

They strike from the shoulder,  
They're winners in life, for  
They never say die;  
They know how to try.

-Author Unknown

LaGrange Church of Christ  
R.R.5, Box 13  
LaGrange, IN 46761

Sunday  
 Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
 Assembly 10:30 a.m.  
 Assembly 6.00 p.m.

Wednesday  
 Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Evangelist :  
 Roy Noble - 463-4100 (hm.)  
 463-3571 (off.)

-WE LOVE YOU-  
THANK YOU FOR VISITING TODAY !



The  
**TRANSFORMER**

"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)

August 7 1988

ON TO MATURITY - ZEAL

"But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you: He is filled with fury because he knows that his time is short."  
Revelation 12:12

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be on the hit list of the Mafia? The very thought of having a paid assassin stalking our steps strikes terror in our hearts. Yet, how much more frightening it is to realize that every disciple is on Satan's hit list. He lurks behind us like a roaring lion seeking an opportunity to have us for his lunch! Satan and his demons never let up in their attack. God and His angels are viciously at war against the demonic army of Satan. We must zealously be engaged with God in His spiritual battle. Are we ready to fight? What does it take to be a part of God's army?

WHOLEHEARTED DEVOTION

"But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendents will inherit it."  
Numbers 14:24

The U.S. Marines are looking for "a few good men", but God's army is looking for hearts that are fully committed. Zeal is a matter of the heart. When you are in battle, you have no choice but to fight. There will always be discouragement, times of distress, and moments of fear. The wholehearted soldier never gives up the fight. There are no "time outs" on the battlefield. Battle consumes every area of life. Wholehearted commitment applies to every area of life. To

fight alongside God we must be wholehearted in our decision to fight.

#### ARMY OF CONVICTION

"Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, 'We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.'" Numbers 13:30

Lack of convictions come from Satan, and deep convictions come from God. Without deep convictions that are established by God, zeal flounders and dissipates. We need Caleb's "can certainly do it" attitude. Can we take LaGrange for Christ in our lifetime? "We can certainly do it!" Can we change our sinful idiosyncrasies and become like Jesus? "We can certainly do it!" If we will stay in the Word until it cuts and on our knees until we change, then we can certainly do anything. The zealous soldier armed with conviction will wreak havoc on Satan's army.

#### RADICAL URGENCY

"Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes." James 4:14

The Bible paints a graphic picture of how short life is - "You are a mist". This is not a metaphor to spur us toward more diligent work. That is the reality of life - we are a mist. Do we have the "mist mindset"? Do we believe we must live as Christ today because we might be gone tomorrow? Are we convinced this might be our last chance to fight? The radically urgent soldier has the mist mindset.

God is looking for soldiers in His army. What does it take to be a part of God's army? It takes Wholehearted Devotion, Army of Conviction, Radical Urgency. We are in a WAR! Let us zealously fight with God to save this world!

\* \* \* \* \*

#### SISTER - TO - SISTER

It's hot, my head hurts and I'm tired! My family's probably heard that a hundred times coming from my mouth this week. Maybe you say, "Well Barbara you have a right to complain, it has been 105° this week."

As I look back, I'm not sure if I do. You see, I have a sister who has shingles and lives alone in a hot trailer. After going to visit her, not once did she complain about her predicament, but rather mentioned brothers and sisters who are an inspiration to her.

I have a sister (in Christ and blood) who lives with her energy being squeezed from her and pain all through her body with no answer as to why.

She called last night to tell me about our cousin putting Christ on in baptism.

I have a sister who can hardly see and suffers from the pain of her disease. She handmade a quilt this past winter and has not missed her privilege of assembling with her Christian family since I've been here.

I have a sister who is standing by her husband in a hospital room, waiting to hear good news. There's not been much yet. She came last Sunday morning to the building to teach a group of kindergarten children about Jesus.

I have a Savior who was spit on, had thorns pressed into his forehead and was nailed to a cross. He asked God to forgive the ones who did this cruel thing. And it was all for you and me so we may live comfortably in His eternal home.

100° and 99% humidity does make us cranky, but please pray and minister to those who are being subject to trials that don't come from the weather.

-Barb

\* \* \* \* \*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- MEN'S RETREAT - Men mark your calendars for September 9-10 for the men's retreat this year. There are photos on the bulletin board of the place (somewhere between Goshen and Nappanee). For more info see Chris D.
- SHARING & BIBLE STUDY - there will be a sharing and Bible discussion time at Joe & Lois Oakley's on Thursday evenings at 7:00p.m. - 8:00p.m. Any members of the congregation are welcome. This will be for adults & teens only, no small children, please. This is presently to be for Christians only, please. Any questions see Joe O.
- PRAYER SESSION - Bonnie, Amber and Kathy Sowles will start a prayer session Fridays at 3:30 p.m. in the auditorium for all ladies and teens.
- PRAYERS
  - Harold DePriest in hospital in Ft. Wayne. It will still be 4-6 weeks before they can set his leg. They are giving him antibiotics in a different I.V. set up, so hope the infection will soon be cleared up.
  - Ryan Kimpel is home from the hospital and recovering from his pneumonia.
  - Barbara has an infection but is doing better and will be traveling to Arkansas for the week. Sharon & Cara will be going with her and the boys.



new Christian. May he make the right choices in arranging his priorities.

\*\*\*\*\*



A missionary was captured by cannibals and thrown into the cooking pot. Sure that his last hour had come, he was surprised to see the chief suddenly sink to his knees and lift his hands in prayer.

"Am I to understand that you are a practicing Christian?" he asked hopefully.

"Sure, I am," replied the cannibal chief. "Please don't interrupt me while I'm saying grace."

• • •

The Sunday school teacher was telling the story about Lot's wife who looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt.

"That's nothing," said little Jimmy. "My mother looked back once while she was driving and turned into a telephone pole."

\*\*\*\*\*

"JESUS TOOK TIME TO BLEED - WE MUST TAKE TIME TO READ"

LaGrange Church of Christ  
R.R.5, Box 13  
LaGrange, IN 46761

Sunday  
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
Assembly 10:30 a.m.  
Assembly 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday  
Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

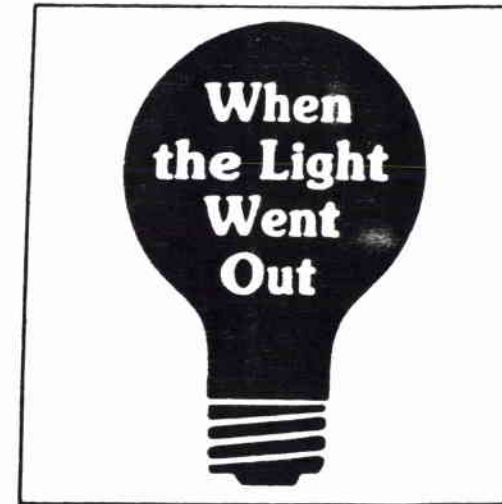
Evangelist :

Roy Noble - 463-4100 (hm.)  
463-3571 (off.)

-WE LOVE YOU-

# The TRANSFORMER

"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)



By MELVIN POWNALL

ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1965, at 5:28 p.m., a giant power failure centered in the Boston-Washington megalopolis reduced some 30,000,000 people in six states to 19th century living conditions for several hours. Everything electrically-powered ground to a halt in the ensuing darkness. There were no lights, no elevators, no television or radio stations. Refrigerators stopped and freezers de-frosted. Planes, circling above, could find no place to land. Life changed dramatically in a few seconds.

Ours is an age of power—political, military, atomic, financial, electric, even "horse" power. We respect power. The pursuit of it has often engaged man in evil activities. Once acquired and worshiped, power will ultimately destroy. Within its rightful perimeters, however, power is useful and beneficial. If any power fails, or we become cut off from it, our lives are severely affected. We become paralyzed.

### What Is Power?

Power has been defined as "the ability to achieve a purpose." Every kind of power has its objective: it is harnessed to achieve some specific goal. A locomotive has the power to pull many cars, but it is powerless to teach mathematics. A rocket engine can boost huge missiles into space, but it is powerless to make a flower grow. Power is powerless for purposes for which it is not intended.

### God's Power

The gospel, the preaching of the cross of Christ, is God's power to achieve his purpose. His purpose is the salvation of mankind (Romans 1:16). No other kind of power can do the gospel's job. Without the gospel, we experience spiritual power failure, salvation is unattainable, and God's plan is thwarted.

Philosophies or other substitutes can achieve the purposes for which they exist, but they cannot do the work the gospel was created to do. Science and technology can help us accumulate those things which rust and can be stolen, but they cannot help us to lay up treasures in heaven (Matthew 6:19, I Timothy 6:19-20). The gospel of love is God's power to create new and eternal life.

It is unfortunate that much of contemporary theology has relegated the name of God to the obituary column and has become increasingly speechless so far as the gospel is concerned. To speak of God's power to save, while modern man bows before his computers, cranes, and satellites, seems out of date. Some Christians allow themselves to be intimidated by their technological and theological environment, but they need to realize that, as Peter Taylor Forsythe observed, "unless there is within us that which is above us, we shall soon yield to that which is about us."

### Man-Power vs God-Power

After all, ours is not the first age which has got too big for God. It was in a Roman world that vibrated with man's power that the apostle Paul cried out: "I am not ashamed of God's power!" He could have been less vocal, because preaching the gospel got him into dangerous situations, but he insisted. He knew that his message was unique. For all her vaunted power, Rome knew nothing of the power "unto salvation" that Paul proclaimed. Rome's power might rule the world, but only God's power could save the world. It is not God's purpose to decide what type of government shall rule a nation; his purpose is to save people from their sins through Jesus Christ, a task for which the gospel is uniquely and adequately equipped. It, and it alone, can achieve God's purpose.

### Have Power: Will Share

Although readily available in abundant supply, God's power is not power to everybody, but only "to everybody who believes"

(Romans 1:16). Access to God's power is by faith. Yet, faith is not our savior. Jesus remains the savior; the gospel, God's dynamite to break through hard hearts; and faith, the fuse by which the gospel's power is ignited and set off in our lives. The resulting new life, then, can glorify God in the church through Jesus Christ. God is able to do far beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us (Ephesians 3:20-21). We are now kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation (I Peter 1:5), and we have this gospel treasure in our bodies in order to show that the power comes from God and not from us (2 Corinthians 4:7).

-20<sup>th</sup> Century Christian

\* \* \* \* \*

### SISTER - TO - SISTER

(This regular column will continue in two weeks)

\* \* \* \* \*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEN - Please remember the men's meeting immediately after our assembly tonight. Your attendance is encouraging to others and a sign that you care.

PRAYERS -

Harold DePriest - Harold underwent his 6th minor operation on Thursday night to help remove the infection. This must be totally cleaned out before any bones can be set. He is in Lutheran's Moellering Unit, #215, in Ft. Wayne.

Jim Henson - Jim is still recovering at home. The doctor states that his chest sounds better than it has in years. Praise God for modern medicine!

Kathy Hughes - Kathy is at home with acute ashmatic bronchitis.

Barbara, Sharon and the children for a safe trip home.

Margaret Tucker - At home recovering from the shingles.

Tim Wise asks that we pray for his decision-making as a

ARE YOU PREACHING?

There isn't a word that a preacher  
can say,  
No matter how lovely or true;  
Nor is there a prayer his eager lips  
can say,  
That can preach such a sermon  
as you.  
You vowed to serve Christ and  
men know that you did,  
They are watching the things that you do;  
There is not one action of yours  
that is hid,  
Men are watching and studying  
you,  
You say you are no preacher?  
Yes, but you preach  
A wonderful sermon each day.  
The acts of your life are the things  
taht you teach,  
It is not the things tha you say.  
So, Christian, remember you bear  
his dear name,  
Your lives are for others to  
view.  
You are living examples, men  
praise you or blame,  
And measure all Christians by  
you.

LaGrange Church of Christ  
R.R.5, Box 13  
LaGrange, IN 46761

Sunday

Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
Assembly 10:30 a.m.  
Assembly 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Evangelist :

Roy Noble - 463-4100 (hm.)  
463-3571 (off.)

-WE LOVE YOU-  
THANK YOU FOR VISITING TODAY !

# The TRANSFORMER

"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)

August 21, 1988

DO YOU WANT TO GET WELL?

"Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. Here a great number of disabled people used to lie - the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, 'Do you want to get well?'" John 5:2-6

Jesus asked a man who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years if he wanted to be healed. Why? Because He understood that even though the man wanted his situation to change, he was not willing to change himself. As we want the best for our families but we resist changing ourselves. In the January, 1988 edition of Better Homes and Gardens, an article on spirituality noted that out of 30,000 respondents, 80% wanted spiritual development for their family, but only 35% wanted to improve themselves. God has entrusted us with our families to bring them to Him. Not only teaching right, but being right. Our children will reflect what we are.

Our family roots shaped who we are. We are born trusting. When that trust is broken, we become insecure and learn sinful reactions to ward off pain and hurt. Each of us developed our own unique patterns, that is, our sinful nature. Three key ones are being weak-willed, the victim syndrome, and approval-seeking. We cannot be self-deceived about the impact that nature will make on our families.

DO YOU WANT TO BE HEALED OF BEING WEAK-WILLED? This is the



kind of person who is always learning but never changing (II Timothy 3:7). Saul is an example of someone who could never (1) stand with conviction about the truth (I Samuel 13:8-14), or (2) come to conviction about his sin (I Samuel 19:1-16). Jonathan lived his life trying to protect David from Saul but could never boldly take a stand against what Saul was doing. He died sitting on the fence between Saul and David. Our children see us not having deep convictions about disciplining them. Sometimes we do and sometimes we do not. They learn that they do not have to be consistent in handling anger, habits, overeating, selfishness, or having convictions of their own about these things.

DO YOU WANT TO BE HEALED OF THE VICTIM SYNDROME? The blameshifter is always the victim of someone or something else, never assuming responsibility for their sin. The invalid in John 5 is an example of this. The result is children who do not assume responsibility for themselves. They learn to avoid conviction by using tears, really being hard on themselves or blaming you because you disciplined them, that is, worldly sorrow full of regrets (II Corinthians 7:8-11).

DO WE WANT TO BE HEALED OF APPROVAL-SEEKING? This person wants to be accepted. Everything they do is to please others. They become what they think will make other people like them. In the case of Eli, he honored his sons and the Israelite people more than God (I Samuel 2). His sin of wanting the approval of men rather than the approval of God kept him from truly being God's servant (Galations 1:10). There were several things that resulted: (1) he disobeyed God's law; (2) he did not have the heart and mind of God; (3) he did not teach his sons to have regard for the Lord; (4) his sins were magnified in his sons; (5) their rebellion appeared greater than his. Our children learn quickly that they can manipulate us because we want them to like us. Discipline will be weak and shallow, dealing only with superficial things since going for deep conviction would jeopardize our standing with them.

DO I REALLY WANT TO BE HEALED? We must face the fact that the longer we have been enslaved, the more self-deceived we are about (1) our sinful nature and (2) our desire to be healed. Therefore we must be 100% committed to seeing the things in our sinful nature and how we live according to its desires (Romans 8:5). There will be pain involved in getting well (Hebrews 12:11). But we must go through the process of seeing, being cut to the heart, being convicted of sin and then repenting. It will mean open, vulnerable confession of sin (James 5:16). We will have to continually bring our sinful nature into the light in order to expose it. We will have to accept and trust our brethren's assessment of what they see in us. Proverbs says that the wise listen and the foolish do not accept advice. It also says that we "eat the fruit of our ways" and are "filled with the fruit of our schemes" (Proverbs 1:31).

If we are healed, the effect will be children who can be freed from their

own sinful reactions. They can be secure in who we are and learn to trust. They will become men and women who have deep convictions of their own and live victorious, confident lives (Revelation 15:1-4). God can then use our families to impact the world for Him.

\* \* \* \* \*

Sister - to Sister will continue next week.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- TEEN BOYS - Will be meeting at the Deislars today following morning services to swim. Bring munchies or cookies.
- FELLOWSHIP - Care Group 4 will be in charge of 4th Sunday fellowship this month. (28th)
- SLIDES - Scott Dennison will be showing slides this evening of the work in Australia.
- THANK YOU - Thank you for your love in contributions made to the "Food Basket" located in the lobby. This is available to meet the needs of those in the community outside the church, but is more available especially for those members in need within the congregation here. We would like to build it up enough to sufficiently meet needs that arise during the end-of-year holiday season as they seem to be greater at that time. It's such a blessing to receive help when we need it - yet how much more are we blessed when we give it.  
Acts 20:35
- PRAYERS - Harold DePriest - in Lutheran's Moellering Unit, #215, Ft. Wayne.
  - Jim Henson - still recovering from heart surgery at home.
  - Margaret Tucker - recovering from shingles.
  - Angola church - going through struggles at this time.
  - our congregation - for a stronger commitment.
  - John Slone, Patricia Leslie's father, is in Parkview Hospital suffering from pneumonia, bronchitis and enphysemia.
  - Brian Leslie has the flu.
  - Remember to pray for these in our daily prayers and also for any others who are not mentioned that you know of.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- CARE GROUPS - Care Group 4 will be meeting at the Copeland's for a cookout on Sept. 4 (Sun.) immediately following morning assembly. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided. Bring a side dish to pass.
- Groups 1 & 2 are having a GARAGE SALE on September 23 and 24. Money earned will go toward the roof repair. Donations from all zones welcome. Any special items contact Sharon Pepito for Ad. It will be held at the Pepito's.
- Care Groups 1 & 2 will be having a Pot Luck on Saturday, September 24 at 3:00 IN time at the Pepito's.
- FELLOWSHIP - Tonight after assembly will be our 4th Sunday Fellowship. Care Group 4 will be in charge of clean-up. Plan to stay and share this time with us.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS -

2	Barbara Noble	12	Cinda Simpson
2	Milissa Leslie	15	Jean Pieratt
3	Kathy Jo Hughes	17	Dale Dorris
4	Sharon Pepito	19	Perry Miller
7	Eulalah Turpin	23	Bill Pepito
8	Brian Turpin	29	Will May

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY -

19 Bob & Sue Morgan

- PRAYERS - Harold DePriest in Ft.Wayne Hospital recovering from broken leg.
- Jim Hanson recovering from heart surgery.
- John Slone, Patricia Leslie's father - pneumonia

**LaGrange Church of Christ**  
 R.R.5, Box 13  
 LaGrange, IN 46761

**Sunday**  
 Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
 Assembly 10:30 a.m.  
 Assembly 6:00 p.m.

**Evangelist :**

**Roy Noble - 463-4100 (hm.)**  
**463-3571 (off.)**

**-WE LOVE YOU-  
 THANK YOU FOR VISITING TODAY !**



"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)

August 28, 1988

"THE FATHER'S WAY"

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: 'My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those he loves, and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son'"

Hebrews 12:1-7

As families we are always surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. We are constantly being looked at, listened to and evaluated by each other for what we do, what we say and how we appear. The Bible tells us to throw off everything that hinders us and everything that entangles us so we might have the correct focus and be able to see God's direction and plan. Let us look at some specific direction in order that what we do, what we say and how we appear may not entangle and hinder the people we love the most, Our Family.

THE FATHER'S PLAN

As fathers, God has given us a specific direction and a speci-

SISTER - TO - SISTER

fic role that we are to be the head of the households. Each one of us carries the responsibility to see that each one of the members of our family is given everything he or she needs in order that they might be able to walk with God. I believe that many of us for years have not accepted our roles and have relied on our wives to meet our children's needs. We must change our mindset and our hearts and become convicted that in many ways our children's salvation rests upon us. Do we love our children enough to give them the precious time they need with us, or do we always have something else planned? Do we daily pray with our children in order to find out how their relationship with God is? Do we ask specific loving questions about their walk with God? "What are you reading? What have you learned? Can I help you?" Are you involved in their ministry? Do you know their friends and their lives? Do you ask the questions, "How was your Devo? What did Roy preach on? What effect did this weekend have on you? How can I help you change?" Do our children see us reading our Bibles daily? Do they know that you are praying with your wife everyday? Do your children believe in their hearts and know in their minds you are a man of God? Do they see godly discipline in your life? God tells us He disciplines those He loves. It is so important that we discipline our children.

THE FATHER'S DISCIPLINE

The Bible tells us that God disciplines those He loves. Discipline is very important to our God. If discipline is very important to our God, should it not also be very important to us? We need to understand that it is a godly discipline that we should be teaching our children and not a worldly discipline. What is the difference? First, God disciplines in love. Our children need to see, feel and understand that our discipline with them is totally derived from the deep love we have for them and not out of anger. The world disciplines out of anger and hate, but God disciplines out of love. When we discipline our children, are we yelling or screaming and totally frustrated or are we composed, in control and ready to deal with the situation the way Jesus would? This godly discipline means giving godly direction. Are we using Scripture in our discipling? Are we calling our children to obey God and His Word first? Are we calling our children to respect us because God commands it?

God calls us to be men of His planning and His direction. He also calls us to be men who can implement His plan and His direction. I pray that we, as men of God and as fathers of God's children, will take the responsibility to love them as He loves us.

\* \* \* \* \*

AND THE LORD ADDED...Paul Carrier, Amber Budzyk's boyfriend, was baptized Friday (26th). He will be working at the Howe Amaco Station. His address is: 69626 S. Nottowa St. Telephone # - 616-651-8326 Sturgis, MI 49091

You know that woman next door that is lonely, the girl you work with at the office, the mother who's going through a divorce? Or what about your family members who don't know God yet, your child's teacher, the girl at the check-out?

All those souls out there who are drowning in sorrow, pain and sin are waiting for "something" to give relief. We've all sought relief for our lives at one time or another. Remember when your mother would put a mixture in the vaporizer, something like Vicks Vapor rub, and the aroma penetrated your congested head and sinuses. The clogged feeling of being stopped up soon eased away and relief set in.

You and I, my dear sisters, are that fragrance that penetrates the hearts of those around us.

"But thanks be to God who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of Him. For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one we are the smell of death; to the other the fragrance of life." II Corinthians 2:15:-16a

The last part of verse 16 poses the question we all ask: "...And who is equal to such a task?" Well, who is this fragrance? Who can dispense this knowledge of God? You say, "not me"! Your're right. What?! You mean I don't have to knock doors, hit my neighbors over the head with my Bible or drag people to the assembly?

Paul told the Corinthians that they were letters, known and read by everyone. They weren't written in ink but with the Spirit of the living God on tablets of human hearts.

Because of the power of the gospel which people see in our transformed lives as children of God, we have confidence through Christ.

"Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant..." II Corinthians 3:5-6a

Empty yourself and allow God to transform you. It is through Him and the security we have of our life in His that enables us to share with that lonely neighbor, the mother torn in divorce and the girl at the check-out, that you have and do struggle, but have found relief in Jesus Christ.

-Barbara

\* \* \* \* \*

ATTENTION PARENTS: The new classes start the first Sunday in September. Please make sure your children know where their classes are. Classes will be the same Sunday and Wednesday.

Baby - 2 yrs.	Rm. 4	3rd, 4th, 5th grade	Rm. 10
3 & 4 yrs.	Rm. 3	6th, 7th, & 8th grade	Rm. 12
5yrs. & Kind.	Rm. 11	9th - 12th grade	Rm. 8
1st & 2nd grade	Rm. 7	Preschool during worship -	Rm. 11
		(3 & 4 yrs)	

THE KEY OF HOPE

When the storms of life seem thickest  
There's a silver cloud behind,  
If we know just how to hunt it  
It is there for us to find.

When it seems the world is darkened  
And the sun will never shine,  
There's a way through, and we'll find it  
If we pray instead of pine.

Sometimes life seems very bitter,  
We could give up in despair,  
But there always is a way, yes,  
God gave us the key of prayer.

-Gay Ray

\* \* \* \* \*

"JESUS TOOK TIME TO BLEED; WE MUST TAKE TIME TO READ"

LaGrange Church of Christ  
R.R.5, Box 13  
LaGrange, IN 46761

Sunday  
Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
Assembly 10:30 a.m.  
Assembly 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday  
Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Evangelist :  
Roy Noble - 463-4100 (hm.)  
463-3571 (off.)

-WE LOVE YOU-  
THANK YOU FOR VISITING TODAY !



"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)

September 4, 1988

"I CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY"

A Texas friend told me of an elderly lady who came into an insurance office with a tattered life insurance policy in her hand. "I'm just going to have to turn this in," she said. "I can't afford to pay the premiums any more."

The agent looked at the policy. "But it's such a shame to turn it in now, after all these years. Isn't there someone else who could pay the premiums for you, perhaps the beneficiary?"

"Oh, I'm the beneficiary," the woman said. "My husband bought the policy. He died three years ago, and since his death it's been hard to pay the premiums."

Yes, the woman had continued paying premiums even after her husband, the insured, had died. Instead of leaving the insurance office without her policy, she left with a very large sum of money, enough to give her financial security for the rest of her life.

This story is especially touching to me, for it describes the unnecessary plight many of us find ourselves in. When Jesus died on the cross, he paid for our sins. "For Christ died for our sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring us to God..." (I Peter 3:18). Yet we often continue to work and slave as though our salvation depends entirely upon us. What good news it is to learn that the premium is already paid!

Let us accept what Jesus has done for us. It is better to spend our time worshipping and serving Him gratefully than trying to earn what is already secured.

-20th Century Christian

SISTER - TO - SISTER

For years there has been confusion in the minds and hearts of men and women concerning the woman's role in Christianity. Misapplication of scripture along with "Women's Lib" has intensified that confusion. Many of us have been led into fear, discontent or rebellion.

We need to know what God wants and doesn't want from us as women. So that confusion can be replaced with a simple love for God. "This is love for God: to obey His commands.." (I Jn. 5:3) Do you often feel it is difficult to trust God's word and practice it in your own life? When we hear "obey commands" we automatically think "death defying acts on a trapeze", don't we?

A look at Biblical examples of women helps clarify Gods plan for all women, whether single, married, mothers or grandmothers. Understanding some basic Christian concepts has also helped me personally to understand the specific direction God has given to me, a woman.

In the next few weeks we will look at some general principles for all God's people: living sin-free lives; obedience to God; making disciples; the equality of believers; submitting to the authority of leadership; and submitting to the needs of others. Then we will consider some specific directions given to women. A few verses offer harder challenges to men, others to women. Our task is to understand and apply scripture, not question it.

-Barbara

\* \* \* \* \*

ATTENTION PARENTS: The new classes start the first Sunday in September. Please make sure your children know where their classes are. Classes will be the same Sunday and Wednesday.

Baby - 2 years	Rm. 4	3rd, 4th, 5th grade	Rm. 10
3 & 4 yrs.	Rm. 3	6th, 7th, 8th grade	Rm. 12
5yrs. & Kinder.	Rm. 11	9th - 12th grade	Rm. 8
1st. & 2nd. grade	Rm. 7	Preschool during worship (3 & 4 yrs.)	Rm. 11

\* \* \* \* \*

50th Wedding Anniversary

Jim and Lois Henson will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception given by their families, on Saturday, September 17, 1988 from 2:00 to 6:00 P.M. with a special program at 3:00 P.M. and buffet following, at the Lakeland Jr. High School, LaGrange, Indiana.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- CARE GROUPS - Care Group 4 will be meeting at the Copeland's today immediately following morning services. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided, bring a side dish to pass.
- SHULTS-LEWIS CANS - Please turn in your Shults-Lewis cans by next Wed.
- FOR THE MEN - There will be a Men's Retreat on Friday & Saturday, September 9 & 10. Will leave building at 5 p.m. Bring Bedding, food, fishing gear & swim trunks.  
- There will be a Men's Meeting on September 11 following evening assembly.
- LADIES DAY - On September 24th the Willowdale congregation will be hosting a Ladies Day with registration beginning at 9:30 a.m. and dismissal at 2:00 p.m. Luncheon will be served. Theme:"Where Are You Going My Little One?"
- ADDRESS - Stephen Miller's address is:  
Student Box # 603  
Box 11000  
Oklahoma City, OK 73136-1100  
Phone # 405-425-6318
- NEW PHONE # - Tim Wise has a telephone now. His number is: 463-3378
- PRAYERS - Harold DePriest still in Ft. Wayne Hospital recovering from his broken leg.  
- Kathy Hughes has a lung infection again.  
- Francis Springer asked for prayers Sunday evening and also gave thanks for answered prayer.  
- Ron Stevens asked for prayers Sunday evening also, for strength in his move to Rochester, MI.  
- Don & Becky Hutto were baptized Sunday evening.  
- Paul Currier was baptized a week ago Friday. His address and phone number are on the bulletin board.  
- Remember these in our daily prayers - any other ill of our number and especially Don & Becky and Paul as they begin their walk with the Lord.
- THANK YOU - Thank you for your love in contributions made to the "Food Basket" located in the lobby. This is available to meet the needs of those in the community outside the church, but is more available especially for those members in need within the congregation here. We would like to build it up enough to sufficiently meet needs that arise during the end-of-the-year holiday season as they seem to be greater at that time. It's such a blessing to receive help when we need it - yet how much more are we blessed when we give it. Acts 20:35



ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

- POTLUCK - Today after morning services there will be a potluck for Doris Covey. She will be moving to the Ft. Wayne area. (If you want you may bring a small gift, but no money, please)
- MEN'S MEETING - There will be a Men's Meeting tonight immediately following evening assembly. (Minutes of last meeting on the table in lobby).
- TAPE LIBRARY - There are tapes to be checked out in the Library on the bottom shelf. (Thank you Sue!)
- NEW ADDRESS - Johnson Oakley Phone # 1-405-425-6192  
Student Box 234  
% Oklahoma Christian College  
P.O. Box 1100  
Oklahoma City, OK 73136-1100
- PRAYERS - Harold DePriest still in Luthern Hospital, but may get to go home soon.  
- Jil Deisler recovering from pneumonia.  
- Sherry & Randy Johnston in their loss.  
- Margaret Tucker recovering from shingles  
- Robert Morgan (Bob & Sue's son), from Texas is suffering with kidney stones.  
- Willis Eash has a tumor in his lung.  
- The family of Samuel Troyer in their loss.
- Let's remember these in our daily prayers and thank God for the answers He's already given.

\* \* \* \* \*

LaGrange Church of Christ  
R.R.5, Box 13  
LaGrange, IN 46761

Sunday  
**Bible Class** 9:30 a.m.  
**Assembly** 10:30 a.m.  
**Assembly** 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday  
**Bible Class** 7:00 p.m.

**Evangelist :**

**Roy Noble - 463-4100 (hm.)**  
**463-3571 (off.)**

**-WE LOVE YOU-**  
**THANK YOU FOR VISITING TODAY !**

*Mike Miller - front door*

**h e**

**TRANSFORMER**

"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)

September 11, 1988

A "LABOR" OF LOVE

As I write this, it is Labor Day, and it is an absolutely gorgeous day outside. However, as we prepare to take the family to the park, I think about what this holiday is suppose to stand for anyway.

Labor Day was instituted in honor of labor. Good ole' back-breaking, blister-causing, dirt-under-your-fingernails work. The kind that keeps you busy for hours, soaks you in sweat, and enables you to stand back at the end of a job and admire your completed task with pride. But then I pick up the newspaper and on the front page of the business section I see an article on how the above description no longer accurately describes the American work force. As I then look in the Parade magazine elsewhere in the paper, I notice an article on how the work ethic has grown to the other extreme in Japan.

In Japan, a person's work means everything to them. I mean everything! The average worker puts in 5½ days per week, with so many hours accumulated totally for the week that the article stated that they don't even have time to spend their savings or paychecks. When asked the hypothetical question of "...what they would do if caught in an emergency and could not make it home, and could only make one phone call, who would it be to?", the overwhelming majority answered "their employer". In another article there is mention of the fact that Japanese authorities were surprised at the high number of child suicides this year as schools began. You see, Japan has the most demanding school systems in the world, and the frustration to achieve and attain goals that were unrealistic

finally drove these elementary through high school students to say "what's the use?"

I often wonder the same in the Lord's church. How many of my brothers and sisters are asking the question, "What's the use anymore?" Are many ready to commit "spiritual suicide", and perhaps I'm not even aware?

You know, legalism has been around for a long time. We are not the first people to ever experience how easy it can be to get caught up in a "works-oriented salvation". Paul addressed this problem in the book of Galatians. The message the false teachers destroyed these Galatian churches with was one of "bondage" (yoke, Gal. 5:1).

Do we have realistic goals in the Lord's church? Do we realize that our salvation is not attainable by us, but that it is a free gift that has already been given to us? (Eph. 2:8-9) Do we feel that we should have a "religious Labor Day", in honor of doing the "work of the Church"? What is the "Lord's work?" In John 6:29, Jesus says it is "...to believe in the one He (God) has sent". Sounds simple, doesn't it? But that's just it....it is! Jesus did all of the "work" on the cross, for you and me! Praise God!

When we see our "works" as redemptive, we will become frustrated and give up, because there isn't one little thing that you or I can do to make God love us anymore that He already does. But praise God when we see our "works" only as the bearing of fruit because of the way the man from Nazareth has changed us on the inside.

-Roy

\* \* \* \* \*

SISTER - TO - SISTER

An understanding of our relationship to God is a must to have an understanding of our role as women. Consider these verses: "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - which is your spiritual worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:1-2

Our response to God's mercy should be a changed life, one that imitates Christ (I John 2:3-6). This transformation comes as a result of "renewing your mind". Our concept of ourselves as women must never be molded by "the pattern of the world." We are to have the "mind of Christ" (I Cor. 2:16), His viewpoint of life (II Cor. 5:16), His love for others (I John 13:34) and His humble submission to God (Matt. 26:29, Phil. 2:5-8).

Only then will we be able to discern God's "good, pleasing and perfect will" for our lives as women.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, understood obedience to God's commands. At first she was frightened by Gabriels announcement that she, a virgin, would give birth to a son by the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:26-38). Her response, however, was "I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said" (Luke 1:38). Her obedience enabled her to become the most blessed of all women, the mother of our Saviour.

Can you say, "I am the Lord's servant", as Mary did? An unbroken, prideful spirit will keep us from fulfilling our potential as godly women and destroy our contentment with God's plan for our lives. We must not only recognize God's authority but joyfully obey Him, truly believing that as our creator He knows best what will make us happy.

-Barb

\* \* \* \* \*

50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

You are cordially invited to attend the celebration of Jim & Lois Henson's 50th anniversary. A reception will be given by their families on Saturday, September 17, 1988 from 2:00 to 6:00 P.M. with a special program at 3:00 P.M. and buffet following, at the Lakeland Jr. High School, LaGrange, Indiana. The couple request that no gifts be given.

\* \* \* \* \*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- GARAGE SALE - To be held Sept. 23 & 24 at the Pepito's. Please bring your donations the day before. All proceeds go to pay for roof repair.
- OPEN HOUSE - Judy Boyle will be having an open house at her new home on Sunday, Sept. 25. Bring a side dish for lunch. Meat provided. A gospel quartet will be singing at 3:00 P.M.
- OUTDOOR FESTIVAL - On Saturday, Oct. 8 there will be an outdoor festival for the entire congregation from 2 - 9 p.m. There will be games, etc. and supper outdoors. A hog has been donated by Earl Vaughn (Patti Copeland's father) and will be roasted and then brought here. After dark we will go into the auditorium to hear a surprise group of singers. Bring your friends and visitors!

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONT'D

MEMBERS FILES - Please remember to check your files in lobby.

- Prayers
- Remember our new Christians - Tim Wise, Paul Currier, and the Hutto's.
  - Patti Copeland was baptized Tuesday morning, stating she had never understood repentance at the time of her previous immersion. We rejoice with Patti and commend her for her courage!
  - Harold DePriest at home recovering from his injury.
  - Margaret Tucker's niece, Karen Carter was found dead in Haywood, CA.
  - Hiram Hicks , Midge Hughes' father, passed away last week.
  - Bob Morgan was in a car accident and is in the Parkview Hospital in Ft. Wayne.

\* \* \* \* \*

A little boy sat at the table without eating. When his mother asked what was wrong, the little boy told her his tummy hurt. The mother said, "It's probably empty. It will feel better when you put something in it." One Sunday, the preacher came to lunch with them, but told them he had a headache. The little boy spoke up quickly and told the preacher, "It's probably empty. It will feel better when you put something in it."

\* \* \* \* \*

"JESUS TOOK TIME TO BLEED: WE MUST TAKE TIME TO READ"

LaGrange Church of Christ  
 R.R.5, Box 13  
 LaGrange, IN 46761

Sunday  
 Bible Class 9:30 a.m.  
 Assembly 10:30 a.m.  
 Assembly 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday  
 Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Evangelist :  
 Roy Noble - 463-4100 (hm.)  
 463-3571 (off.)



"...be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Rom. 12:2)

September 25, 1988

HE GAVE HIS GREATEST POSSESSION

In a small midwestern town there lived a young widow with her five year old son who had been blind from birth.

After months of saving money, the mother traveled to an eastern city where she was informed that surgery could give eyesight to her son.

When told that the mother was not able to pay the normal fee, the surgeon replied that restoration of the boy's sight had first priority.

Following the successful operation and long days and nights of waiting to remove the bandages, a smile of delight came upon the boy's face as he beheld his mother for the first time. "Mother, you are more beautiful than I ever dreamed you would be!"

When the day came to leave the hospital, the lad wanted to give the doctor something, but the only thing he had was a small teddy bear which had been his companion since infancy. One arm was gone, one leg had lost its stuffing, one eye was missing, but the bear was still the dearest possession the child had.

A huge package awaited their arrival at home. The biggest and finest teddy bear that money could buy was found inside. But in the surgeon's office, carefully placed under glass, sits a little brown, battered teddy bear with one arm, a limp leg and one eye. On a card in front of the bear are found these words: "The largest single fee I ever received for professional services."

Are we as grateful for our spiritual sight as to give unto

the Great Physician our dearest possession?

-Ken Beard  
Donmoyer Digest

\* \* \* \* \*

SISTER - TO - SISTER

"From the Heart of One Woman to the Heart of Other Women"  
(Ladies, if married, share this with your husbands.)

Dear Ladies,

While reading the scriptures recently I was reminded of the vast difference between God's people and the people of the world. Do you think there is a great problem in the Body today because of our lack of understanding of the difference? I wonder!

Scripture describes only two spirit-fathers. One is God, our Father, and Satan, the father of everyone else. This might be hard even to think about because we may (and probably do) have loved ones who are in Satan's family. Recently, a young lady said, "We usually think of those who are not in Christ as being non-Christians, but we fail to realize WHO they are, children of the devil." Maybe because we do not think of them in this light we are not as diligent in trying to bring them to Christ. If we truly realized where they will spend eternity, and with whom, would we not snatch them from the fire, or forever be trying?

You know, someone does not have to be immoral, a thief, nor a repro-hate to be the devil's child. He has only to be excluded by God from His family through disobedience. If he is not God's child he is auto-matically Satan's child. Because of this fact does it seem reasonable, or even possible, to expect the devil's child to live according to the laws of our Father, until he becomes His child? Does a physical father expect a neighbor's child to live under his direction when the neighbor child has his OWN father to obey?

Ladies, we must spare our own children eternal punishment. Imagine the sorrow they will be spared, if our children are diligently taught from early years the difference in the two fathers and their children. In the first place, they would not want to copy the devil's family in any area of immorality whether in dress, speech, reading material, or entertainment. They would grow up studying and knowing who was in each family.

Our children would know how their spiritual Father hates immorality. They would know early to love what God loves and to hate what He hates. Also, they would not want to play with the devil by getting as close to

the world as possible and still be Christians.

Consider this! When it comes time to choose a mate, how fortunate is the young person who knows the difference in the two families, for he will never desire, nor allow Satan to become his father-in-law. He will want God in all his relationships because God is his Father, and he knows it.

Another thought! When we know the difference between the two fathers, can we believe the children of the devil can worship our Father? How many times do we see signs put out for the world to see, by churches of Christ, which read COME WORSHIP WITH US. Why do we invite the world to COME WORSHIP WITH US? The world cannot worship our Father until they become His children, can they?

Are our gatherings the place to bring our friends who are children of the devil to be taught? The purpose of our gatherings are two-fold. We worship our God together and we edify one another. When we bring un-believers into our gatherings to be taught, are we able to edify ourselves with the meat of God's word, or must we "walk on egg shells" so we won't offend the unbeliever. In reality are we not to teach privately our friends, relatives and neighbors, beginning where they are, spiritually? When they accept the teaching, God adds them to us and THEN they join in our gatherings. Please hear me when I say we do not exclude anyone who wishes to visit our gatherings. That is not the same as bringing them to "church" to relieve us of our personal responsibility, and also of perhaps choking out what spirituality they might have.

-Nelta Brock  
for The Examiner

\* \* \* \* \*

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- REMINDER - Remember our Fall Festival on October 8.
- OPEN HOUSE - There will be an Open House at Judy Boyle's home today following morning services. Bring a dish to pass. Meat will be furnished.

October Birthdays -	8	Pat Hall	20	Donnie Angus
	9	Judy Boyle	24	Bill Oakley
	16	Kevin May	26	Norma Miller
	16	Hailey Deisler	26	Margaret Tucker
	17	Jamie Hutto	31	Chase Deisler

- October Anniversaries -
- 11 Bill & Sharon Pepito
- 12 Fred & Penny Oakley

God bless each of you on your special day!