

The Mission Trail

BOX 101

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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COMON "LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST" - JOHN 4.35 WOMEN COMO

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again with another gospel message. To our new listeners let me say that we print and mail these messages each week, and if you would like to be added to our mailing list, simply write us a few lines requesting that we add your name to our mailing list. There is no charge nor obligation on your part. You may address us in this way, THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Oklahoma, and my name is Willie Murphey. To those who are helping to maintain this weekly schedule, we want to say a very hearty thank you and may the Lord reward you a hundredfold.

Now listen to the reading of our scripture from Philippians, chapter 4 and verses ll, l2 and l3. "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHICH STRENGTHENETH ME."

On our last broadcast we spoke about the fact that Paul said he had learned in whatsoever state he was therewith to be content. I hope that we will also learn the lesson well and that we may make the most of our conditions and circumstances in life. I believe we can do this if we find the resources of all strength which come from the Lord.

Then listen to the bold declaration which the apostle made in verse 13 when he said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." He had found that it was folly to lean upon his own strength. He realized that in doing so he was a complete failure, but when he turned from his strength and reached forth his hand to clasp the hand of his master, he felt a surge of power go through his being, and he realized that through Christ he was able to do all things.

Another time in the life of the apostle Paul he sought the Lord three times for a certain petition, yet it was not in the will of the Lord to grant this request. But listen now to his testimony from II Corinthians, chapter 12 and beginning with verse 8. "For this thing I be sought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong."

So we see then that the opposition itself was the means of causing him to be strong when he completely put his trust in God. I want to assure you that

God is able to take the weak things of the world and confound the mighty.

This thought is brought out in I Corinthians, first chapter and beginning with verse 27. I read. "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence."

So you see, friends, it is not always the smartest people and the most learned people whom God can use. If this were true many of us would be excluded from God's plan of usefulness. But God is ever searching for those who are willing and ready to be used of him.

Listen to this most comforting verse from II Chronicles, chapter 16 and verse 9. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him."

God is ever searching for people whose hearts are honest and open to accept his truth and to stand firm upon his word. And let me assure you that when you do this, you, too, my friends, may be made strong in the Lord to withstand the adversities of life. Remember again the text. The Apostle Paul said, I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Now I'm not here to tell you that the Apostle Paul was physically strong or great or that he was a man of combat in a natural sense for the warfare which he was engaged in, and also the one which every child of God is engaged in, was a spiritual warfare which requires

greater strength by far than earthly combat.

Listen to the reading of this scripture from II Corinthians, chapter 10 and beginning with verse 4. "(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."

You see, sometimes people think that once they give their hearts to the Lord, the troubles and battles of life will practically be over--from then on it should be smooth sailing. But this is not the truth. Once you make a move to take your stand for God and for the truth of his word, you will find enemies on every hand. Sometimes those you feel should be your best friends will turn against you, and it will require greater strength for you to be faithful.

I know a young school boy who has refused to take up the habit of smoking cigarettes. Some of his classmates made light of him and picked at him when he refused to smoke. Would you like to know the nickname they gave this boy who was standing so firm against the evil habit of smoking? They began to call him "Smokey".

I say that this takes more courage and grace to stand firm. Listen to these verses from Isaiah, chapter 40 and beginning with verse 30. "Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

"But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

Friends, I hope the message tonight will serve to strengthen your spiritual inward being and help you to be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. Through him we can accomplish the things that would be utterly impossible in our own strength. Consider now this poem.

YOUR MEASURE

You're measured as a workman By just the things you do When there's nobody looking And no one knows but you.

Your only REAL value Is what you think and say When no one ever hears it And sham is stripped away.

Your power is determined By simply what is found To be your code of honor When no one is around.

Your character is founded, Without the slightest doubt, On just your course of action When no one will find out.

You're rated--just remember, By only what is TRUE--No matter what the seeming Of all you say and do.

For Truth cannot be covered, And so we stand or fall Just by the fundamentals Of what we ARE--that's all.

--Selected

Let us spend a moment in prayer.

Our Father,

We are indeed thankful that you have a reservoir of strength sufficient to supply everyone who feels that they are weak. May we learn how to put our trust completely in thee that you would grant us strength for each and every day. Bless each one who hears the broadcast tonight with a special blessing and to thee we will give the praise through Christ our Saviour. Amen

Listen now to the song "Blest Rock of Ages" as sung by Lynn and Alma Carver, Arnett Carver and Manuel Mitchell.

This message has been brought to you by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. Now until next Friday night at 10:45 this is Willie Murphey saying may God's richest blessings be yours and a very pleasant goodnight!

--o--A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE

Have you ever tried to converse with a person who spoke a different language than you did? Unless you have a common meeting point this can be a difficult situation. The Lord has created and planned some things in the world that are common to people of all nations.

Psalms 19:1 reads: "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmanent sheweth his handywork." And especially notice the 3rd verse which says: "There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world."

The beauty of nature is a universal language. A person can feel the nearness and greatness of God when he gazes at the heavens and sees how miraculously each star and celestial body is placed in its own place.

There is another common meeting point and that is the great plan of salvation. The Lord has made it possible for everyone to be a part of His kingdom and enjoy salvation. When two people who are filled with the love of God meet, there is a fellowship that goes beyond the barrier of speech. Salvation is a universal language! -P. M.

AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND THAT:

We appreciate the many Christmas cards and letters which we have received this week. Some have included offerings to be used in the work of the Lord, for which we are deeply grateful. We pray that God may reward each one with his richest blessings.

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We are including again our Christmas greetings to you with this issue of The Mission Trail. It contains the coupon which we asked our readers to return to us last week if they desired to remain on our mailing list for 1967. Your response has been encouraging, and quite a number of these coupons have already been returned to us. However, we feel sure that there are many which have not yet sent theirs in. We are asking you to please do this at your earliest convenience. If you have already done so, it is not necessary to return the one which is enclosed this week.

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One sister had this to say, ". . . Yes, I want you to continue my paper until I tell you to stop it or some one tells you I am gone to my eternal home. I like to hear from God's people. You all pray for me. . . Sincerely in the one true way," --Lillie B. Hood

From Arkansas: "Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey, I am still reporting victory more and more. . . I sure do enjoy the little paper and look forward to getting it. I'd love to see you and talk to you. I'm sure it would do me good to get to testify for my Lord. He is my strength. I'd love to be able to do my own writing, but I just tremble so I can't seem to write. I am sure you understand. I have ten children and would like for you to remember them in prayer. . Your sister in the Lord,"

--Ruth Scalf

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From Oklahoma: "Dear Readers of The Mission Trail, I feel I must notify you of what God has done for me. Soon after I wrote some time ago the Lord touched my body and I have made rapid improvement ever since. Praise the name of the Lord. I work some each day, and am feeling wonderful; if I don't over-do, I do not suffer. I can not express my gratitude as I would like to. Don't have words, but I do say 'Thank God' and thank you for your prayers. In Christ," --Ruth Murphey

Remember the starting date for the Guthrie and Pacoima, Calif. assembly meetings is Friday, December 23.

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