



# The Mission Trail

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"LIFT UP YOUR EYES, AND LOOK ON THE FIELDS; FOR THEY ARE WHITE ALREADY TO HARVEST." — JOHN 4:35

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. . . It brings me great joy to again present the Word of God over this powerful station XEG. A very cheerful greeting to all those who are tuned to THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. This is Willie Murphey speaking to you. Before I bring to you the message from the word, let me tell you that this broadcast is given with the hope that there may be some listening who are searching for the truth. If so, we hope that the thoughts and scriptures selected may be just the ones for your particular need.

Our work is a work of faith, and it is supported largely by those who are willing to contribute to see the gospel go forth both by radio and the printed weekly message. You see, we also offer these messages in print each week free of charge to those who wish to have their names added to our mailing list. Should you be hearing the broadcast for the first time, or if you have listened before but failed to write us, why not send us a card or letter and join with us in prayer for those whose hearts are hungry for the truth? You may write to us in this way: THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Listen now to one of my favorite parables from the mouth of our Lord. In the book of Mark the fourth chapter and beginning with verse three we read,

"HEARKEN: BEHOLD, THERE WENT OUT A SOWER TO SOW:

And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the way side, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up. And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth; But when the sun was up, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit. And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased; and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some an hundred."

to sow the gospel seed. In this parable the seed is likened unto the word of God. The sower went forth into his field, scattering the precious grain all around him. It is true that not all of it yielded fruit, because some of it fell by the wayside. It was not long until the birds had devoured it, so, of course, it could not bring forth fruit.

For the next few moments I want to speak to you concerning our obligation

Did you ever hear the expression that some people let things go into one ear and out the other. Well, that is just about true in the manner in which some people receive the gospel. Young people and teen-agers sometimes consider that it is the old folks who need to read the Bible and think about eternity

and where they are going when they leave this world. Therefore, little time or thought is spent by them in serious or deep meditation. We hope that is not the case with all, in fact, we know that it isn't because we do know that some young people are very seriously in earnest about serving the Lord and dedicated to His cause.

Then some men, likewise, consider that the Word of God and the gospel is suitable for the women, but there are too many things from which they would be restrained should they give up their sinful life. I would say that it is people like these that Jesus spoke about in this parable. Satan came immediately and devoured the word before it had time to profit them.

Nevertheless, it is still my duty and your duty to tell others of the gospel message. It is not for us to always know how much good or profit may come from sowing the seed.

There is another class of people shown here. These are the ones which are likened unto stony ground. The seed sprang up and grew momentarily, but when the sun came forth, it withered away. There are many who have a love for the truth. They know it is right; they admire those who live by its precepts, and sometimes they even venture to try it themselves. But when a few trials come, it seems that the way is too straight and the obligation is too great, so they give it up. I wonder if there is one hearing the broadcast tonight that would be in this class.

Notice the third type of ground shown in this parable. That is where the seed fell among the thorns. No doubt, the ground was plenty fertile, but this is an illustration of some people who have

good and honest hearts and really good intentions. But somewhere along the way the cares and problems of life, and the responsibilities which they face from day to day overcome them, and they really never accomplish very much for God.

Of course, I like best of all the thought that some of the seed fell into good ground and yielded fruit. Even so, it is the will of God that his word be spread abroad into every nation, kindred, tongue, and people that all may have an opportunity to follow its precepts.

In Psalm 126, verses 5 and 6 we read, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

Here also is a verse found in Deut. 22:9 which has a spiritual meaning. It says, "Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with divers seeds: lest the fruit of thy seed which thou hast sown, and the fruit of thy vineyard, be defiled." Now what I have been talking to you about is pertaining to good seed or the gospel message. A godly life and a good example are necessary for those who would sow the Word.

But when one attempts to sow good seed and evil at the same time, this is breaking the commandments of God. The ancient Jews were here instructed to sow only one type of seed in their fields at the same time. The seed must not be mixed.

Friends, I wonder if there might be some hearing this broadcast tonight who are endeavoring to serve God on the one hand and on the other hand,

they are serving the enemy of their souls and indulging in many things which lead to evil and lead them away from the true way.

Another verse we should constantly bear in mind is found in Ecclesiastes 11:4. "He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap." We so often want conditions to be just ideal for our efforts which are put forth for God. Otherwise, it is so easy for us to wait thinking that at a later time it will be better. This is often a mistake. We are instructed to sow the word freely without waiting for conditions to be better.

On the night of October 8, 1871, D. L. Moody had been preaching in the city of Chicago as he had done many Sunday nights before. But upon this particular occasion, Mr. Moody made what he considered the greatest blunder he ever made in his life. The courthouse bell was sounding an alarm of fire, but he paid no attention to it. They were accustomed to hear the fire-bell often, and it did not disturb them.

He finished his sermon upon "What shall I do with Jesus?" and said to the audience: "Now, I want you to take the question with you and think it over, and next Sunday I want you to come back and tell me what you are going to do with Him."

"What a mistake!" he said afterward; it seems as if Satan was in my mind when I said it. Since then I have never dared to give an audience a week to think of their salvation. If they were lost, they might rise up in judgment against me."

The tragic part of that mistake was

that much of Chicago was burned to the ground and the next morning lay in ashes. Their place of meeting did not escape the flames, and the buildings were destroyed also. Who can tell the results of what may befall us if we delay in scattering the gospel seed. Let us pray.

Our Father,

We pray for divine assistance that we may freely and boldly sow the gospel seed among all the nations of the world. Bless those who hear the broadcast tonight, and may it kindle in them a fervent desire to be more diligent in scattering the gospel for we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen

Listen now to this poem entitled:

#### LOST OPPORTUNITIES

Only a word, yes, only a word,  
That the Spirit's small voice whispered,  
'Speak,'  
But the worker passed onward, un-  
blessed and weak,  
Whom you were meant to have stirred  
To courage, devotion and love anew,  
Because, when the message came to you,  
You were out of touch with your Lord.

Only a note, yes, only a note,  
To a friend in a distant land;  
The Spirit said, 'Write', but then you  
had planned  
Some different word, and you thought  
It mattered little. You did not know  
'Twould have saved a soul from sin and  
woe  
You were out of touch with your Lord.

Only a song, yes, only a song,  
That the Spirit said, 'Sing tonight;  
Thy voice is thy Master's by purchased  
right.'  
But you thought, 'Mid this motely throng,

I care not to sing of the City of God;  
 And the heart that your words might  
 have reached grew cold---  
 You were out of touch with your Lord.

Only a day, yes, only a day,  
 But oh, can you guess, my friend,  
 Where the influence reaches and where  
 it will end  
 Of the hours that you frittered away?  
 The Master's command is, 'Abide in  
 Me,'  
 And fruitless and vain will your service  
 be  
 If out of touch with your Lord.

Listen now to the song, "Drifting",  
 as sung by Lynn Carver, Arnett Carver,  
 Troy Gentry, and Manuel Mitchell.

This message has been brought to  
 you by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie,  
 Oklahoma. Until next Friday night at  
 10:45, that is C. S. T., this is Willie  
 Murphey saying may God's richest  
 blessings be yours and a very pleasant  
 goodnight!

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## Come Apart . . . and Rest

"Come ye yourselves apart. . . and  
 rest a while." Mark 6:31

The life of a missionary is a strenuous  
 one, and a change in routine often pro-  
 vides a much needed rest as the follow-  
 ing letter from Missouri indicates.

June 20, 1967, Route 2, Granby,  
 Missouri 64844.

"Dear Ones, We send heavenly  
 greetings in Jesus' name today. Just  
 a note to say that my visit at home is  
 fast coming to a close. The Lord allowed  
 me to be here for my last brother's  
 graduation and to my brother David's  
 wedding. The Lord worked in a mar-  
 velous way for my coming home, and

I am so grateful to God for his great  
 love to me and to each one of His people.

"During the time that the Lord per-  
 mitted me to be home I have done many  
 things that are not the general routine  
 of life of a missionary, but I have  
 thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it.  
 First of all I have taken in the beauti-  
 ful country and weather. Unlike dry  
 and extremely hot Ejido Patzcuaro,  
 the weather has been so cool and nice  
 with good showers and rain. In Ejido  
 Patzcuaro and that vicinity of Mexico  
 and United States the anual average of  
 rainfall is a small percentage of an  
 inch. A person never appreciates the  
 beauty of God's beautiful handiwork in  
 the green country side, trees, birds,  
 flowers, rain, and many other things  
 until they are away from them for a  
 while.

"The privilege to help in all the duties  
 of farm life, even to the hauling of hay  
 and work in the garden, is very dif-  
 ferent from life in Mexico where I live.

"The Lord permitted me to go to  
 Arkansas with Sis. Ruth Murphey and  
 to meet the saints in Grubbs, Arkansas.  
 We were able to visit in the Shreveport,  
 La. congregation and to be in services  
 there and to visit Bro. and Sis. Carver.  
 We also went to Monroe, La. and were  
 in Bro. and Sis. Goldsberry's home.  
 It's so good to be with the saints, our  
 own family.

"I have visited in neighbors' homes,  
 some of whom are ill and in the homes  
 of my brothers and sisters in Kansas  
 City. I am so glad for all these many  
 blessings and feel refreshed now to  
 return to the little place of labor in  
 this great world of ours where God has  
 placed me to work for Him. I would  
 appreciate your prayers that I will be  
 faithful in every way to the people  
 there and to the saints and to my Lord.  
 Your Sister in Christ," --Edith Cole  
 P. O. Box 1425, Calexico, California

From Ohio: "Dear Bro. and Sister Murphey and family, Greetings of love in our precious Saviour's name. A few lines tonight while you all are on our mind--trust this finds all well and encouraged. . . Lord willing, we hope to be able to attend the Guthrie camp-meeting this year, This will be the first time for both of us. We have been praying about which one he would have us go to. . .

"We do thank our blessed Saviour tonight for His many blessings and for what He means to us. We look upon our little boy, and our heart feels as if it would burst when we see what God has done for him since we have put him completely in God's hands. Words could never be expressed to tell what we feel in our hearts to God. It just makes us want to serve Him better. We know the enemy isn't through with us yet, but we do thank the Lord we have a higher power on our side.

"We do desire prayer that we will have a Godly home and will walk Godly and upright before the world. Christian love and prayers," --Bro. Johnny and Sis. Della Geutwein and Jeffrey

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From Arkansas: June 12, 1967, "Dear Ones: At the present time I am at Swifton, Arkansas caring for the congregation at Grubbs while Bro. and Sis. Albert Eck are at their farm in Kansas. I am glad to be busy again in the service of the Lord. 'He has done great things for me whereof I am glad.' I love the Lord and His people and thank Him for His mercy to me."

--Ruth Murphey, Box 352, Swifton, Arkansas 72471

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From New Mexico: "Dear Bro. and Sister Murphey, . . . I pray God to help you in every way to keep sending out the truths of God's word. . . Christian love,"

--Ruth Doolittle

## God's Miracles

"If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

From Ohio: "Greetings in Jesus' dear name. This leaves me yet saved and encouraged to press the battle on until the end. I realize we must keep true and faithful until the last. I am praising God for his wonderful goodness to me and my family. God has heard and answered prayers many times in our behalf. I am very thankful and praising God for working a miracle while my son was in Vietnam. He came home last month after being there thirteen months.

"While listening to my son's experiences, he told me of many incidents in which God spared his life. It was a miracle! Here are a few of the incidents: Once while coming up a big hill he was hit with a grenade and knocked back down the hill without a scar. Another time the enemy shot directly at my son, but by God's mercy, the bullet went around him and hit the soldier behind. Still another time while out with his platoon, he was the only one to come back not wounded. I know it was a miracle!

"Many times while my son was in Vietnam the Lord woke me up to pray. I thank one and all for their prayers. I am yet thankful for how God has blessed the family and for how he has given me grace, courage, wisdom and strength and also how he has stood by me so many times in my Christian experiences. I don't have words to express God's mercy and goodness to me. He is my all in all. I am determined to see God's face in peace. Pray for me, my husband and my family that they may be saved before it is too late. Remember me that I might do the little things that God requires of me. With Christian love," --Sis. Zenola Knight

## AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND:

From Alabama: "Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey and children, It surely is a joy to greet you at this time with Christian love in our dear Lord's name. So very thankful He loved us so that He gave His life's blood that we might live. Thank the Lord!

"Sis. Gladys Williams and I felt burdened to return to Alabama to help the dear saints here in this new field. We have been here ten days. The Lord is blessing the effort. The Lord blessed with a meeting in Tuscaloosa last week. We have good altar services. A number sought the Lord for spiritual help and deeper depths in the Lord. Two sought the Lord to be saved since we've been this way.

"Lord willing, we plan to start vacation Bible school, Monday, 12th, for the children. It's much to do down here for the Lord and souls are hungry for the truth. We desire yours and the saints prayers that the Lord will help us be a blessing in His service. Christian love," --Katherine Williams

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Be sure to listen for the message on KOMA, 1520 kc., each Sun. morning at 8:30 beginning July 2nd.

A request for an agreement of earnest prayer is given in behalf of Bro. Curtis Williams. We were informed by a call from his wife Bernice that he had taken fresh cold on a trip into Pennsylvania. Although he is now home, he is suffering in his lungs and is looking to God for healing.

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Congratulations to L. D. and Lois Chrisman of Enid, Oklahoma on the birth of their 8 lb. son, June 16th.

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We are glad that we were permitted to be in a few services in the Zion Hill, Ark. campmeeting the past weekend.

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We were much encouraged by the attendance at Central Community Building near Garfield, Arkansas, Friday night, June 16th.

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We rejoice for the good which was accomplished in the Mission, South Dakota meeting even though some inconvenience was had because of the heavy rains.

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Bro. Bobby Forbes attended the Holly Hill, S. C. meeting and reports that the Lord blessed there.

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