



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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Let Your Light So Shine Before Men

(Radio broadcast on KOMA Sunday, July 2, 1967.)

. . . A pleasant good morning to all the listeners of radio station KOMA. It is a real pleasure to bring to the listeners of this radio station our short gospel message of THE MISSION TRAIL. This is Willie Murphey speaking to you. To some, no doubt, this will be your first acquaintance with us and the work which we are endeavoring to do for the cause of God. I hope that this may be the beginning of a real and lasting friendship for many of those who have not heard The Mission Trail broadcast before. This is our first broadcast over radio station KOMA, and we are looking forward to having many more.

Then, to those who have been regular listeners and readers of The Mission Trail, of course, no introduction to you is necessary. Many of you are familiar with our work and have helped to make it possible that the message can now be heard over radio station KOMA. We know that some of you have eagerly looked forward for this day of July 2. Certainly we have looked forward to it with anticipation.

Now a few other words by way of introduction seems necessary that I should explain who I am and for what purpose we are here. First, my name is Willie Murphey. I live in Guthrie, Oklahoma, just a few miles north of Oklahoma City. I am and have been a minister of the gospel for many years. However, in recent years God has intrusted me and my family with the privilege of presenting the gospel by means of radio.

We are now in our third year of broadcasting The Mission Trail. My wife Frances and I have two grown daughters, Kathleen and Patsy. We also have two sons of school age. We are happy to be bringing this message to our listeners and readers.

You see, this broadcast is obtainable in printed form each week and is mailed free of charge to those who request it. If you are not one of those who are regularly receiving the printed copies, be sure to send us your name and address at once that we may include it in our weekly mailing list. There is no cost or obligation. Address your letter to: The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Oklahoma. This is all the address needed for your letter to reach us.

Let me explain further that we not only preach the gospel by faith, but we trust the Lord to supply the needs of our household and also for the expenses of this broadcast. God has been faithful and has not failed us, and we believe that through your prayers and

co-operation we may also reach other hearts who are hungry for the plain simple truths of the Bible.

Now this seems to be sufficient to let you know who I am and for what purpose I am here. From here on, we hope that our messages from the word of God shall speak for themselves.

In Matthew, chapter 5 and verse 16 we read these words. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." With this scripture in mind, I want you now to listen to this poem entitled:

HIS LAMP AM I

His lamp am I
 To shine where He shall say;
 And lamps are not for sunny rooms,
 Nor for the light of day;
 But for the dark places of the earth,
 Where shame and wrong and crime have
 birth,
 Or for the murky twilight gray
 Where wandering sheep have gone astray,
 Or where the lamp of faith grows dim
 And souls are groping after Him.
 And as sometimes a flame we find,
 Clear-shining, through the night
 So dark we cannot see the lamp--
 But only see the light--
 So may I shine, His love the flame,
 That men may glorify His name.

--Selected

From the verse which I read we see that God's people are to set forth an example to all men everywhere which will be as a light to shine even to the darkest corners of the world. I believe that when one's life has been transformed by the saving knowledge of Christ, it will be a reproof to sin and an encouragement to those who are seeking the truth.

If you don't mind, I would like to go back and pick up an illustration from the years of my youth. This has been some while ago as on my last birthday I was fifty years old. But as a child at home in the days which are gone, we did not have electric lights in our home until later years. Perhaps many of you will remember the time when lights were made by the use of kerosene lamps. And even yet the word "kerosene" seems a little too refined, so I would like to use the word which we used at that time. It was "coal oil" lamps. Do you know what a coal oil lamp is?

Well, it is a lamp which makes a little flickering light, that is in comparison to a hundred watt electric light bulb. It has a wick which often requires trimming. One end of the wick reaches into a container holding oil and the burner is surrounded by a "chimney" or "globe". Of course, this is made of glass and is easily breakable.

I wonder how many of you hearing this broadcast today ever had the job of cleaning the chimneys or trimming the wicks of a coal oil lamp? The reason for a clean-up job is simple-- that the lamp may more brightly shine to those around it. It works best in a dark room.

Therefore, I believe that God's children are the lights of the world that all men may see and know the truth. You and I should keep the love of God burning brightly in our bosom that it may beam out brightly to those about us from day to day.

As the darkness of evil powers of hatred and envy crowd more closely, we hope that each of you will let God's light shine more brightly in your life.

This is no time for our lights to go out, but it is a time when they should be trimmed and brightly shining. Surely, there are many around us living in darkness who know not the truth. If your love for God has grown cold, we hope that this will be the time when you will trim the wick and polish the globe of your lamp.

Here is a poem which I like real well. The name of it is:

Spring Cleaning

God knocked at the door of my heart
 today
 And I looked for a place to hide;
 My soul was cluttered and choked with
 debris
 And things were untidy inside.

I needed some time to put matters right,
 Surprised He would call on me;
 My soul needed cleaning from bottom
 to top,

There were things He should not see.

There were tasks neglected, long over-
 due;

Cobwebs to be brushed from the wall;
 Rugs to be shaken and windows cleaned
 up--

I had not expected this call.

I stood with my hand on the latch of the
 door

And gazed at the mess in the room.
 When I opened the door, my soul blushed
 to see

God had left on my doorstep--a broom.
 --Selected

Friends, is this the condition of your soul today? Is your heart filled with hatred, malice and bitterness. If so, I want to bring the good news to you that the blood of Christ is a detergent

and a cleansing agent capable of washing the stains of your sins away. May you come to know him soon!

We would be pleased to hear from you if you have enjoyed our little visit in your home or automobile today, and now let us pause for a moment of prayer.

Our Father,

Bless every listener of radio station KOMA as they hear these words. May we not seek to discover the faults of others, but help us to thoroughly examine our own hearts that we may let our light shine more brightly to those who yet remain in sin, and thus give them a hope which will spring up in their bosom unto eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

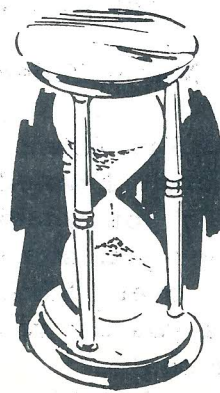
Listen now to the song, "Jesus Took My Burden" as sung by the Carver quartet.

This message has been brought to you by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. If you would like a printed copy free of charge, you may have one upon your request without cost or obligation to you. Now until next Sunday morning at 8:30, this is Willie Murphey speaking for The Mission Trail of Guthrie, Oklahoma and saying may God's richest blessings be yours until we meet again, with a very cheerful good-by!

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"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them."

--Ecclesiastes 12:1



CORRESPONDENCE

"Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another; and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name." Malachi 3:16

From India: "Dear Bro. W. C. Murphey, I am well with my friend V. V. Samy. I am sure you all will be well with the blessings of Christ. I am very happy to note that my name is included in The Mission Trail mailing list. I am receiving The Mission Trail regularly. I am very much thankful for the same. Please excuse me for the very long delay.

"My friend Samy is filing all the Mission Trails and I too follow the same. So it will be good for us to read them whenever we get time. And also it provides a lot for one who desires to know and lead a good life. I pray Him to bless you with a long life to enable you to serve Him more. . .

"Shall close with best wishes and prayers that The Almighty may bless you all and keep you in His path forever. Yours Sincerely," --R. Settu, I. N.

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From Missouri: "Dear Bro. and Sister Murphey and family, We greet you in the wonderful name of Jesus, our friend at all times. We sure do thank the dear Lord for His help to us. I am getting better each day. We sure do thank everyone that prayed for me. . . The dear Lord has healed my eyes. . . I sure do thank the Lord. . ."

--Ben, Bertha and Marie Yoder

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From Arkansas: "Dear Sir, Greetings in the name of our Lord. I would appreciate it very much if you would send me the radio sermons you mentioned on your program over XEG. Thank you and God bless you as you work for Him. Yours for souls,"

--Mr. Jess A. Gideon

From Oklahoma: "Dear Bro. Willie and family, . . . I am encouraged to live for God. He is all to me. I need your prayers that I will live faithful to him. I am praying God to bless and keep you. . ."

--Bro. Dadie Jay Moore and family

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From Louisiana: "Dear Saints, A few weeks ago Sisters Ruth Murphey and Edith Cole were in our home and we listened to your broadcast. We enjoyed it very much. We planned to write to you but got sick. The Lord is so good to me. Praise his dear name! . . . Please pray for me. Christian love,"

--Bernice Constable

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From Oklahoma: "Dear Ones, We send greetings of love to you this morning in the precious name of Jesus. Surely we are thankful this morning for what that name means to us. Thankful that he saved our souls from sin and put within our hearts a desire for heavenly things. . . We are praying for you and the work you are doing for the Lord. Love," --Edwin Eck, Lillian & family

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From Washington: "Dear Brother Murphey and family, I am writing to tell you how I enjoy the little paper which encourages me to press on. . . I am shut in--have to use a walker. We are in our 70's and I just can hardly get along so it makes it so hard for me. I ask your interest in prayer for my legs so I can keep going. . . Pray that God give me strength to press on to victory as I want to make heaven my home. Please pray for me. Yours in the Lord,"

--Carrie Westrope

"LET ME DIE THE DEATH OF THE RIGHTEOUS,
AND LET MY LAST END BE LIKE HIS!"

Numbers 23:10

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." Rev. 14:13

The past few days have brought about some changes, the results of which will be felt in the church for a long time to come. By this we mean that a number of saints have passed to their eternal reward. Their lives have been a blessing and an influence for good. Their home-going will be keenly felt.

Sister Leila Joiner, age 79, of Hammond, Louisiana, died June 27th. Her long life of service to God and the church is well known. Bro. T. H. Coffey spoke at the funeral service Friday, June 30th, which was held in the Oak Grove chapel near Loranger. Her body was buried in the cemetery nearby.

This is the same cemetery where her brother, Oscar Williamson, is buried. He died on January 27th of this year. Sister Katherine Key who died in August of 1966 is buried not far away. Indeed it would be a glorious experience to be standing near this cemetery on the resurrection morning when these and all the other saints are resurrected to meet the Lord in the air.

Bro. A. J. Bowman, a minister of the Wichita, Kansas congregation, died Saturday afternoon, July 1st, while attending the Hoffman, Oklahoma camp-meeting. Bro. Bowman has been active in the work of the ministry, and the church will surely miss his presence. We trust that God will bless his wife, children and relatives in this time of sorrow.

Sister Lula White, age 84, of Guthrie departed this life Sunday, July 2nd. She attended the services here for many years, but in recent months her health has not been so good. However it was a pleasure to have her in the meeting when she felt like coming. Her godly life and influence is a wealthy inheritance left for her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren as well as all others who knew her. Her going certainly leaves a vacancy, but we believe that our loss is heaven's gain. Her funeral was held Wednesday, July 5, and her body was laid to rest in Summit View Cemetery.

Brother John Green who lived in Louisiana for many years died Sunday, July 2. He had recently come to Guthrie and had been assisting in caring for the church property. His life was one of sacrifice and dedication to the cause of God. Rarely is one found who is so wholly given to the principles and teachings of the Bible. He often gave of his means to further the cause of Christ when he could have used them himself. Here follows a letter written on Friday before he died Sunday. It was received by Bobby and Myrtle Savoie on Monday after his death. Included with this letter were some small gospel booklets.

"6-30-1967 Dear ones all: Greeting. Trusting all are doing well in all good ways. Aquila got home all right. Thank God. Dear ones, I have gotten so much good and help by having this precious little Bible. I want you all to have one. Just feed your soul on the rich things recorded in such a little book as this. It contains the rich things we all need if we are exercized thereby. Help us dear Lord. Love and prayers for all, Uncle John"

AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND:

It was a pleasure for Frances and me with our family to attend a few days of the Hammond campmeeting this past weekend. It was almost like a home-coming to see again those whom we so dearly love--our brothers and sisters in the Lord. The Lord was present in the services to convict, and a number was at the altar for spiritual help. Other duties made it necessary for us to return home after Sunday, although we feel we would have received even more blessing if we could have stayed while the meeting continues on the balance of this week.

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Campmeetings of Pacoima, California, Akron, Ohio and Myrtle, Missouri begin today, Friday, July 7th.

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From Tulsa, Oklahoma: "Dear ones in the Lord, We greet you in Jesus' dear name. We are both getting along as good as could be expected. Frances Perkins took us to see Inez (Beisly) as she fell and hurt herself. Her back is so she had to be turned in the bed. Frances brought us home and went back to be with her this week."

--Sister Barton

MEXICO CAMPMEETING REPORT

We were very pleased to get the report that five were baptized in the El Alamo campmeeting which was held this past weekend. Brother Harland Smith was present in the meeting, also Sister Edith Cole and Sister Opal Kelly and Larry Sneed. Brother James Huskey had gone to the Oregon campmeeting. Sister Carrie Sheppard was back in Louisiana and attended the Hammond meeting.

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We are sorry that some have been disappointed because the message is no longer heard over radio station XEG. We hope that God will make it possible for us to have an earlier time on that station or a better one which will cover those areas where KOMA fails to reach. If you are now hearing KOMA, 1520 kc., on Sunday morning at 8:30, please let us know that we may understand how effective the station is. Let us each one pray that God will help us use our time and means in the most effective manner to reach lost and perishing souls as we lift up our eyes and behold the fields which are white already to harvest.

The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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