



The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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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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More Excuses

Radio Broadcast for week of December 29, 1968 (See back page for list of stations.)

. . . and a cheerful greeting, friends, to each and every one of you who have your radios tuned to THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast of Guthrie, Oklahoma. It is indeed a pleasure to be coming your way another time before the close of 1968. It will only be a few days now until the new year will be here and 1968 will be gone forever. It is true that every day may seem alike as they come to us, but each day comes with its own opportunities, and responsibilities, its own calls to duty, its own privileges--holding out hands offering us radiant gifts. The day passes and never comes again. Other days as bright may come but that day never comes a second time. If we do not take just then the gifts it offers we may never have another chance to get them. And above all, if we miss the plan of God for our lives each day we have missed the most important thing of life.

Listen to this scripture from the 14th chapter of St. Luke and beginning with verse 16, "Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant

said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."

I want you to especially notice the 18th verse which says, "And they all with one consent began to make excuse." In other words, these people offered excuses for not doing what they had been invited to do. Have you ever noticed how quickly some folks will change the topic of conversation when you begin to talk to them about the things of God. They can think of so many excuses to offer for not doing what they know they should do. Now if you are looking for excuses let me tell you something. There are lots of them to be had. Let me also remind you that God who has given you many opportunities throughout the year of

1968 is under no obligation to extend them to you indefinitely. The Word says that today is the day of salvation and now is the accepted time.

Did you ever find a real good bargain somewhere at the store? You wanted the merchandise and the salesman made you a good price on it but you thought, "Oh well, I'll shop elsewhere a while and if I don't find what I want I'll come back. Perhaps you did shop elsewhere and perhaps you didn't find what you wanted, but doesn't it give you a real feeling of disappointment when you go back and find that the merchandise you wanted in the first place has been sold. Well, really whose fault is it? Was it the fault of the salesman? Who is there to blame? Well, really, no one but yourself. You were too slow in making a decision.

And I wonder how many who will be hearing this broadcast have waited long years to do the things which they know they should have done in early youth. Do you remember that song which says 'wasted years'? How many years have you wasted out in sin, living for the pleasures of life? Listen to this poem.

Procrastination

Unto a youth the Gospel came,
Exhorting him in Jesus' name,
To turn from sin, embrace the truth
And serve the Lord in days of youth.

The youth replied, "I know that's right,
But I won't turn from sin tonight;
A few more pleasures I will seek,
And then I'll turn, perhaps next week."

But next week came, and still his heart
Was not inclined from sin to part.

"A few more days in sin I'll live,
And then my heart to God I'll give."

Days pass by, and months roll on,
And still he sings the same old song:
"Not now, but after while I'll pray
For God to wash my sins away."

The months and years went by so fast,
From youth to middle age he passed;
And yet his sins were not forgiven,
Nor yet his name enrolled in Heaven.

From middle age to old he went;
His body 'neath the years was bent;
"His conscience once so keen to feel,
No more was stirred at God's appeal."

Procrastination in its stealth
Had robbed his soul of heaven's wealth;
And so at last to sin a slave,
He died to fill a Christless grave.

O Souls, behold, God says, Today
Turn now from all your sins away,
Lest you should reach your doleful fate,
And cry at last, "Too late, too late".
--Ulysses Phillips

Friends, as this new year of 1969 dawns upon us let us put one goal above all others and that is to find the will of God for our lives and do it. There is no need to make excuses any longer. Time is getting away from us. It is going to run out for us one of these days and there is no denying that fact. And now as you count your blessings over for the old year, surely you should offer your thanks unto God just like it says here in Psa. 107. Listen, "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy; And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the

west, from the north, and from the south. They wandered in the wilderness in a solitary way; they found no city to dwell in. Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them. Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them out of their distresses. And he led them forth by the right way, that they might go to a city of habitation. Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness. Such as sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, being bound in affliction and iron; Because they rebelled against the words of God, and contemned the counsel of the most High: Therefore he brought down their heart with labour; they fell down, and there was none to help. Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them out of their distresses. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and brake their bands in sunder. Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder. Fools because of their transgression, and because of their iniquities, are afflicted. Their soul abhorreth all manner of meat; and they draw near unto the gates of death. Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he saveth them out of their distresses. He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions. Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men!"

Shall we pray,

Our gracious Father,

We acknowledge our need and dependency on thee. For the many blessings of the past year we are grateful and we earnestly entreat thee to go with us now every step of the way in the new year, enriching our lives with thy presence and to thee we will give the praise through Christ our Lord. Amen

Now, friends, may I take just a moment to tell you that this message is brought your way by The Mission Trail of Guthrie, Okla. If you'd like a printed copy free of charge or if we may be of any help to you be sure to let us know. We are trusting God by faith to make us able to send forth his word. We do desire your prayers and co-operation.

Listen now to this song: "Dwelling In Beulah Land". The singers are Bob Forbes, Randall Flynn, Dale Doolittle, and Troy Gentry.

Friends, we trust that God's presence will be very near each and every one of you and that his rich blessings may come your way throughout the entire year of 1969. Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying a very cheerful good-bye!

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I hear Thy voice, dear Lord;
I hear it by the stormy sea,
When winter's nights are black and wild.
And when, afright, I call to Thee
It calms my fears, and whispers me:
"Sleep well, my child."

Speak on--speak on, dear Lord
And when the last dread night is near,
With doubts and fears and terrors wild,
Oh, let my soul expiring hear
Only these words of heavenly cheer
"Sleep well, my child."

--Selected

From Okla.: "We send Christmas greetings and Christian love to all of you in 1968. So glad that God has been so good to all of us another year. It has been a good year because of his love and mercy to Willie and I and our family. Oh! Where would we be without his mercy? Yes, we certainly do want to continue getting the Mission Trail paper as we enjoy it very much. We nearly always hear the message over KGGF but we look forward to the testimonies. May the Lord richly bless your lives and labors of love in 1969. Love and prayers,"

--Ella and Willie McMakin

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From Oklahoma: ". . . I am a cripple in the first place and July 6 I fell and hurt my leg worse than I ever did before. I was in bed 8 weeks then in wheelchair 3 or 4 weeks. I don't remember for sure and since then been on crutches. . . I've trusted God all the way and if he wants me to go this way it is alright with me. I am still going to trust him for everything. . ."

--Mrs. Guy Keeler

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From Arkansas: "Dear Mission Trail family, Thought you might like to know I have heard your broadcast from Coffeyville a few times now and do so much love to hear the word over the air and the singing is so good too. Love and Season's Greetings. Pray for us."

--Vera Dotson

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From Kansas: "Dear ones, May the grace of God be with all of you and bless you in every way. I have been enjoying your broadcast very much. We hope you will be able to stay on our station. I am at the store today so don't have the coupon with me, but don't you fail to keep my name on your list. May God bless all. Christian love,"

--Gladys Piper

From Oregon: ". . . was glad to meet you and your daughter last summer. I am still saved and sanctified and trusting in the Lord for everything. I've had a few falls lately and hurt my ankle and legs, but God has healed them and helped me in every way. He has helped me with many things. . . I trust him for everything."

--Mrs. Helen Haven

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From Oklahoma: "Dear saints, Today I am able to report victory in my dear Lord. I have a letter from dear Sister Puckett's daughter. She is now a well girl. Early last spring she wrote for prayer. She wrote she had been real sick for some time, and now she wants to thank all who prayed for her. She would like to write each one--'for they are worthy people to know and I do thank God I'm better. I just don't see how I could have gone on much longer as sick as I was. I want the people to know how I do thank them for their prayers, for their prayers surely paid off, for I have people telling me I look so much better. I don't look so tired as I did, and I feel better than I have for a long time. I'm back at the bank job part time.' I think God has been so wonderful to this dear girl. Sister Puckett's prayers will go with this dear girl and her husband all through their lives. Let us pray on for our children, for God takes note of every prayer and he doesn't forget when we die. So I'm encouraged to press on. I often have to pray God for comfort, for it's not easy to see your companion slipping away. Bro. Barton has been about the same, but we know God still sees and takes note of us. Thank God he has less pains than others who trust in man made pain killers. God is able to do all things for us--not tired of trusting God. We are the children of the King."

--Sister Hattie Barton.

From Missouri: ". . . Just to let you and the other saints of Guthrie know most of the saints of the congregation here are well except Sis. Ersa Carrick who still suffers a lot and we have been thankful to the Lord for what rest she gets at different times, Bro. Ralph Hill of Carthage, Mo. and Bro. Homer Fee of Columbus, Kansas who are not too well. How are all of the Guthrie saints? Give them my regards when you see them. . . I pray and trust the Guthrie assembly will be richly anointed of the Lord and each one will get the desired help they came for. It is a little hard for me to travel anywhere during the winter season of each year to go any distance, not knowing how the weather under foot is going to be toward starting out or getting back home from places I would enjoy going to. . ."

--Alvah Lawson

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From Louisiana: "Greetings in Jesus dear name. I am so thankful for this great gift to mankind, the gift of God's only begotten son and he freely gave His life for all. Yes, whosoever will may come to Jesus and be saved from all sin. Salvation is the sweetest thing this side of heaven. We should give our selves to the heavenly Father. This is a small gift compared to this great gift he has given us. I am so glad He saved me and put a desire in my heart to live for Him and trust Him for all things. Praise His sweet name. . . . We also enjoy hearing the messages over the radio and the poems and songs. May the Lord bless and help you all to keep this work going is our prayer. We need your prayers very much. Have been suffering with an affliction in foot so badly. Our complete trust is in the Lord. I mean to stand true by His help and grace. . . . With love and prayer,"

--Effie Miller

From Missouri: "Dear Bro. Willie & all, Greetings in Jesus name. Here it is the end of another year that has swiftly gone by. Surely it has been the mercy of the Lord that all has gone so well concerning our family. Our baby Michael Loy and Daniel have been growing and no serious sickness for which we thank the Lord. We appreciate the Mission Trail from week to week and pray that all your labours will be effective to encourage many souls to prepare for long eternity. We thank the Lord for sending the Murphy Allen family to live in our community. Christian love from,"

--Leslie and Eula Adams and boys

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From Texas: "Have appreciated and enjoyed the efforts put forth in the Mission Trail. . . This last one on the number of our days was a very sobering tho't and stirred my heart to keep better 'count of our days', as they may be fewer than we think. Am looking forward to the assembly meeting with an open heart to receive the good needed. . . Christian love,"

--Wilma Meek

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From Louisiana: ". . . The Lord is still blessing us with health and salvation for which are very thankful. Many people do not have these blessings. Some are void of one or the other and some of both. So, really, we ought to feel especially blest of the Lord, but so unworthy we are--it is certainly no merits of our own. By the time you receive this you may have already seen Bro. and Sis. Coffey. But, Sis. Coffey is sure in need of prayer for her body. I'd sure love to see her completely healed. Bro. and Sis. Pinkerton are not well either. Also, Sis. Short is sure needing a special healing touch for her eye. . ."

--Byron and Clarice Pruitt

From Ore.: "Dear Brother and Sister Murphey, Greetings in Jesus precious name. Just a few lines to tell you how I enjoy the little Mission Trail paper and I surely do want it to be sent to me. We are not close enough to hear your message on the radio. . . Sister Spaur and Sister Evalee Stice came to see us a year or so ago and then again last summer. We enjoyed their visits so much, and their last visit they went to Walla Walla and got Sister Gibson and came back to our place and we had a real nice time in the Lord. We sang songs, had testimonies and prayer and Sister Spaur read out of the Bible and talked to us about the scriptures she just read. We hated to see them leave but it is a beautiful memory. Sister Evalee started me in on the Mission Trail paper. I did not know anything about it before. I surely praise the Lord for what He has done for me. When I first started to realize I should live a different life I hardly knew which way to turn to start in. I was never brought up to go to church, but that was the first thought that came to me, but what church? So my cousins were going to the Assembly of God and I thought I would go there too. But some how I couldn't feel right about it, so I quit. I had not been staying home very many Sundays until one day a Church of God bus pulled in and the man asked me if I was going to church anywhere. I told him my desire and also my experience and was not really satisfied with it, so he invited me to the Church of God (Anderson). Well I liked that a lot better and am still going to it, but I am still desiring the real Church of God. So please pray that we may get one started here that is real. . . I only wanted to tell you how the Lord led me when I did not know what to do. I have the Life and Labors of D. S. Warner book and I see a great need yet after

reading his book. God bless and keep you all. Your sister in Christ,"

--Vivian Williams

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Let me be faithful to thy grace,

Dear Lord, today.

--Selected

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Guthrie Assembly: "Dear Bro. Willie and family, Greetings in Jesus dear name. I would like for you to put our new address in The Mission Trail. We enjoyed so much getting to be in another assembly meeting at Guthrie. I feel I got what I desired from the Lord. I desired a closer walk with the Lord and I feel the Lord helped me to be more stirred in my soul, and I have more of a determination to make heaven my home than ever before. I surely desire the prayers of each of the saints that I will be just what the Lord would have me be. We enjoy The Mission Trail very much and desire you send it to us at our new address which is: Martin Samons, 222 N. 1st St., Danville, Ky. 40422. May the Lord bless each one is our prayer."

--Sister Verna Samons

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From California: ". . . I am so thankful to be saved and have my blessed Lord to depend upon for help and guidance in every circumstance of life. . . ."

--Rosa Tompkin

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From Louisiana: ". . . It seems we are able to do so little for the Lord that we love so much and I know he loves us too. We are encouraged and plan to go all the way with him. We want that eternal home he has promised us. Praise the Lord. We trust the Lord is blessing you as usual or even better. We try to listen to the radio program every Sunday. . . Still feasting on the truth that Bro. Coffey brings us each service."--Bro. and Sis. Wayne Miller

at press time

we understand:



Bro. Harland H. Smith

The work of the Lord has suffered a great loss in the death of Bro. Harland H. Smith. Although he had not been well for quite some time his home going so soon was certainly unexpected at this time for many of us. He died Thursday, Dec. 26. After a fall in which he injured himself very badly on Dec. 15 he had suffered greatly. But before he died he had felt better that day, seemed in a more cheerful spirit and was able to eat. His going was rather sudden about 9:30 p.m. The missionary cause was dear to the heart of Brother Harland Smith. It was through his efforts that the gospel was proclaimed in many remote areas south of the U.S. border in Baja, Mexico. Chapels were built, and supplies were often transported to workers and natives in need. Words are unable to convey the loss which will be felt by the natives of Baja as well as the church at home and his loved ones who remain.

"It was a hot sticky afternoon in 1963, when Bro. Harland was driving the pickup loaded with Mexicans in Baja on the way to El Alamo for weekend services. We, the missionaries, were crowded in the front seat. Conversation was lacking as we rode along the winding bumpy road. Suddenly Bro. Harland burst forth with that song, "Bringing in the Sheaves." Now his earthly labors are ended but it is hoped that many sheaves will be brought in at that final day." --Kathleen

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From Illinois: "Happy holidays to you and a confident trust in our God for the new year ahead. We are anticipating many victories in various areas of the Lord's work. We want to be where he can use us. . ."

--Andrew and Thelma Reineking

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From Ore.: "Dear Bro. Willie and family, We enjoy the little paper."

--Harry Davis

--o--

"We are fairly well. Richard is up and around from his sick spell. We thank the Lord for this."

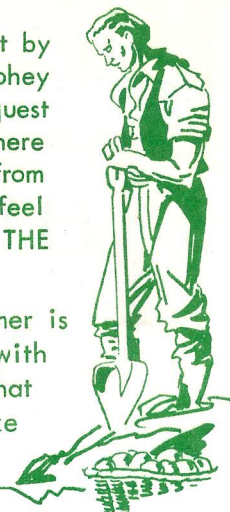
--Richard and Oleta Madden

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At the business meeting Saturday morning at the State Assembly meeting in Guthrie, it was decided to set the date of the next campmeeting to begin May 30th and continue through June 8th. This was thought to be better than the earlier date of May 23 for which it had been previously set. This will be after the closing of school.



THE MISSION TRAIL, originating in Guthrie, Okla., is broadcast by radio and published weekly in printed form by Willie and Frances Murphey with the help of others. It is mailed free of charge to those who request it. Its purpose is to reach the hungry hearts of the unsaved everywhere with the gospel which will save them. Its principal support comes from the free will contributions of its listeners and readers. Those who feel directed by the Lord to assist may do so by sending their offering to: THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.



For some it will come true: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20. Let us hasten with the message which Jesus gave: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

Broadcast Schedule

Listen for THE MISSION TRAIL weekly on one of the following stations:

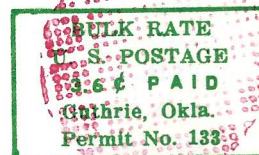
RADIO STATION	LOCATION	DIAL SETTING	TIME
KGGF	Coffeyville, Kansas	690 kc.	Sunday, 8:00 a. m.
KCKW	Jena, Louisiana	1480 kc.	Sunday, 7:30 a. m.
KCLO	Leavenworth, Kansas	1410 kc.	Sunday, 3:00 p. m.
WFPR	Hammond, Louisiana	1400 kc.	Sunday, 7:45 a. m.
KCIJ	Shreveport, Louisiana	980 kc.	Sunday, 7:30 a. m.
KXOW *	Hot Springs, Arkansas	1420 kc.	Sunday, 7:45 a. m.

*Additional broadcast is heard on this station Sunday, 3:30 p. m.

The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044



Address Correction Requested