



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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"You Can, A Million Others Have!"

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"He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." Matt. 10:37-39

Good morning, friends. I hope that today finds each of you well and encouraged in the Lord. I want you to keep this scripture in mind as I proceed with the thoughts of this message. There are some things which are necessary for us to give up in order to gain those things of eternal value. Here is another verse, "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:33 Perhaps there is greater depths in that saying of Jesus than I will be able to cover in such a short few minutes on this broadcast. But let me tell you what inspired this message.

In one of those wonderful prayer meetings which we had recently in the chapel here in Guthrie where so many saints attend there were 25 who testified. Wouldn't you like to be in a prayer meeting like that? I am sure there were a number of others who could have testified also but perhaps they didn't want to cause the meeting to be prolonged beyond a reasonable time. One of those who testified mentioned what she had seen in Colorado. Among the scenic views was this one: There was two huge boulders or rocks which could be seen from a great distance. These I

believe were in or near the "Garden of the Gods". Perhaps some of you have been there. This of course is just a name given that particular area. Well, anyway the road approaches these two big rocks and from a distance one can not see any way to go between the rocks and yet the road is headed right that way. She said that as she came closer then there was this sign, "You can, a million others have". This meant that there was space enough on the road which went right between those two rocks for one to pass safely through, even though it didn't appear that way from a distance.

Think of this for a moment: "You can." What do you get from that? You can do what? Well, really you can do a lot of things. Some might not be to your best interest or the interest of others. Now, connect this thought with the text in Luke, "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple." Is it possible for a person to put God first in his life above father, mother, brothers, or sisters, houses, and lands? Yes, even and his own life? Has it ever been done before? Yes, indeed, dear ones. I don't suppose we would be able

to know or count the ones who have done so. Perhaps to say a million others would be putting it mildly. Then doesn't that give you courage and inspiration to believe that if others have been faithful you can also do the will of God? It is true that we must give up everything that is contrary to Christian principles. But it is also true that most of what we give up is exchanged for that which is worth far more.

But, let me be more specific. What are some of the things you have given up to follow Christ? Well, for one thing I believe that people who live in sin are dissatisfied. There is a restlessness and a longing which cannot be satisfied until it finds rest and peace in Christ. Who is it that wouldn't give up dissatisfaction for the satisfaction and contentment of a peace which passeth understanding? Why I would be glad to make a trade like that, wouldn't you? What more does one have to give up? They have to give up their own selfish sinful ways. And who is it that wouldn't be glad to give up their own ways for the ways of God? God knows more than we do anyhow. He can see further. In fact, he can lead us his way which is far better than our own. So I would think that a person would be glad to give up their ways to go God's ways.

What else? We give up the darkness of sin and despair to walk in the light of God. Listen to this scripture, "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins". Col. 1:13, 14

Now another characteristic about an unsaved person is this: There are

certain things of which they are not sure. In other words they have doubts. Do you suppose a sinner ever stopped to ask himself what am I going to do when God brings me into judgment for the way I have been living? That would present a doubt, wouldn't it? I wonder what his answer is. Dear ones, wouldn't you rather have the assurance to know that your sins were under the blood and you belonged to the Lord? Why not let him remove that doubt? Would I be safe in saying, "You can, a million others have"? Why, I believe I would. In place of doubt and confusion there is assurance and confidence. Jesus told his disciples, "Have faith in God". Why don't you let your doubts go and grasp God's promises. Listen to this verse, "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us." II Cor. 1:20 That sounds like a good trade to me, to give up doubt and get trust.

Well, that is not all. If you start talking about riches there are a lot of folks that get interested right away. Some folks like to dream about some rich relative leaving them a great inheritance that they can just fall heir to without turning their hand. I would say that real riches cannot be purchased with silver and gold. Listen to this verse, "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!" Rom. 11:33

From the scriptures we understand, "By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the trea-

sure in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward." Heb. 11:24-26 Don't you think Moses had something to give up? Think for a moment. Moses was an Israelite. The Israelites were oppressed by the Egyptians but here was Moses brought up as a son of Pharaoh's daughter. He was no doubt educated and had a lot of advantages that the normal Israelite didn't have. He could have just been known as Pharaoh's daughter's child. But this he refused to do. He gave it all up that he might suffer affliction with the people of God and inherit greater riches yes, by far, than he could have ever possibly had in Egypt. Why was that? Moses seemed to know that those Egyptian riches were only temporal and fleeting. He wanted God's approval on his life.

Dear ones, let me tell you that you too can be victorious through Christ. You can, I believe millions of others have. Here is a poem:

THE THINGS WHICH ARE BEHIND

Leave behind earth's empty pleasure,
Fleeting hope and changeful love;
Leave its soon-corroding treasure:
There are better things above.

Leave, oh, leave thy fond aspirings;
Bid thy restless heart be still;
Cease, oh, cease thy vain desirings;
Only seek thy Father's will.

Leave behind the doubting spirit
And thy crushing load of sin;
By thy mighty Saviour's merit,
Life eternal thou shalt win.

Leave the darkness gathering o'er thee,
Leave the shadow-land behind;
Realms of glory lie before thee;
Enter in, and welcome find.

Our Father,

Bless the words of the message to the good of every listener. May they be able to rise from their doubts, fears, and past failures to be an overcomer through thy name. Remember those, so many of whom have written their prayer requests to us. Our hearts go out to thee in their behalf. Be with them this day and may they be made to realize how great are the unsearchable riches of Christ and thine shall be the praise through Jesus' name. Amen

Here is a song, "Joy unspeakable". The singers are Lynn Carver, Arnett Carver, Troy Gentry, and Edgar Martens.

Until we meet again this is Willie Murphy saying may the richest blessings of God be with each of you and a very cheerful good-bye!

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Testimonies

From Ill. : "Surely the Lord had a hand in my learning to drive when I did--as I don't know how I could manage at this time if I didn't drive! Thank God again for His all seeing and knowing eye, and providence. He has surely been good to us in every way. I can never thank Him enough! I thank every saint of God who had prayed for us. Can't tell you how much I appreciate all the prayers and thoughts of us. God bless every one! It is so comforting to know the saints are praying for us. We are having a touch of winter here again today. The wind is blowing strong, and it has snowed a little and the temperature is falling, but it isn't freezing yet. The warm days we had really caused the buds to burst out on the trees, and the grass is getting so pretty and green. Daffodils are budding and blooming in some places. . . ." --Thelma Sprague

From Calif. : "Greetings over the many miles. We hope this finds all well and happy in the great work. Our God knows and He cares, oh! Praise His name. We are rejoicing because of His great love and mercy. What would we do if there were no God? . . . God's will is to save all no matter what the conditions are." --Bro. and Sis. H. P. Huskey

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From Calif. : "A solemn word came to me in a solemn impression 'say to you--Keep looking ahead, Keep looking ahead.' I am praying that you are looking ahead to that crown of life the Lord is preparing for those who will be faithful through this time world. Amen. May the Lord abundantly bless your effort to save every precious soul."

--Sis. Ella V. Phillips

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From Wisc. : "Greetings in the name that is above every name, who supplieth us with all blessings both spiritual and temporal. We have been blest with good health and strength so we can carry on. We are so thankful for the hope and confidence we have in Jesus Christ. In the last Mission Trail you wrote of the cigarette users in school. I well remember the time I was in Chicago in Nov. 1928, went to the livestock exposition. I went accross the street to a restaurant and there a woman sitting at the counter on a high stool crossed her legs and whipped out a cigarette and started smoking. This was so unusual at that time it drew my attention. From that time to this it has come in like a prairie fire. How I hate the cursed stuff. . . Thank God for a better way. Oh, the devil has all kinds of ways to bring people into bondage. Last week we had our first real thaw since Christmas. We still have a good blanket of snow. Here and there is a tiny fleck of old Mother earth peeking thru. . ."

--Frank Dietrich

From Winnipeg, Manitoba: "We certainly appreciate receiving the Mission Trail paper as it has often been a source of encouragement to us. We are only sorry we can't hear the live radio broadcast. May God continue to bless your radio ministry. In Christian love,"

--Harvey and Eleanor Elke

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From La. : "The devil is working hard to weaken our faith. I know my faith certainly has been tried of late, but I know the Lord is able to take care of everything. He has done so many things for us in answer to prayer. We surely owe our lives to him."

--Marie Mitchell

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From La. : "I want to let you know I am still a every Sunday listener to the Mission Trail. It has been a long time since I wrote to you all. . . I have been sick most of this month. . . I always did love the broadcast, but I tell you it is wonderful when you are in a hospital bed to hear the sweet songs, messages and poems. I love to hear the song this morning 'Drifting away'. Manuel Mitchell was one of the singers. I want you all to continue to pray for me. I am feeling much better and I am holding fast to God's love and strength for me. While I feel so weak physically I feel strong in God's love. God bless you."

--Mildred Spurlock

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From Texas: "I have much to thank the Lord for. We feel the pressure of sin all about us, yet the Lord is working for his people and still dealing with some. . . Remember our little group. We are few in number, but the Lord gives us some real good blessings each time we meet. . . God's people are our people. What touches them touches us."

--Sis. Edith Wall

From Calif. : 'I am still saved, thank the dear Lord, and encouraged, trusting him for both soul and body. By his help and grace I mean to go all the way with him.' --Sis. Lucinda Chiles

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From La. : "We send greetings of much love in Jesus name, trusting this will find you all well and happy in the service of the Master. . . I surely thank the Lord this morning for salvation and for the beautiful Church of God. . . The things of this old world have lost all their attraction for me. I desire to get closer to the Lord and stand fast in the Lord. . . I still enjoy the messages over the air, WFPR and also reading the Mission Trail. It is food to my soul. Enclosed you will find an offering for the Mission Trail for the spread of the pure gospel or wherever is most needed. God bless you in your work and supply every need and may your labors of love be effectual to the saving of souls. Love and prayers,"

--Audrey Baumgartner

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From Ark. : "Every day I think of the scripture, 'Rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.' When I feel the least unhappy or discouraged this passage gives me a lift. It is the beginning of a working on the inside that has to move outward. A little lady at home said, 'You're always happy.' I told her I had something to make me happy and I quoted her this scripture (above). She said, 'I'd like to be like that. I'd give anything to be.' So I told her "God is no respecter of persons.' She asked me to pray for her. She's about 50 and a victim of a stroke. Please remember her. When I go to her room the first thing she says, 'Are you still praying for me?'. . . I desire to be willing and obedient and work where the Lord can use me best. . ."

--Sis. Lou Bray

From Mo. : "The Lord needs more people to be willing and ready to work for him. Time is passing away so fast. I'm encouraged to be true to the Lord. He does so much for me and answered prayer in so many ways."

--Myrtle Glass

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From Ore. : "I greet you in Jesus dear name--can report victory in my soul and I thank the dear Lord for what he has done for my body too."

--Sis. Emma Busch

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A PRESSING WAY

The law and the prophets were until
John,
Since then the Kingdom is preached
And we must press to enter in,
Then press till Heaven's reached.

We daily press to keep our mind
On things that please the Lord,
For we must press if we expect
To gain a saint's reward.

Sometimes we press to read God's
Word,
Sometimes we press to pray,
For we must press if we would walk,
The strait and narrow way.

There are feelings that we press
against,
Which Satan brings along
And we must press if in the end,
We sing the victor's song.

From start to finish we must press,
If we would please the Lord.
Tho it may seem we press a lot
The way is still not hard.

If we would have a home above,
And gain eternal rest
We cannot live a life that's slack
We surely have to press.

--Charles E. Taylor

