



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

VOL. 7 NO. 28

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

JULY 30, 1971

Family Ties

Radio Broadcast for week of July 25, 1971 (See back page for list of stations.)

"For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen." Eph. 3:14-21

A very pleasant good morning to all of my dear brothers and sisters in the Lord. Let me tell you what I want to talk about for a few minutes today. It is the wonderful family of God. Did you notice that this 15th verse refers to, "the whole family in heaven and earth". You see, some of the redeemed of God's children have already passed beyond the bounds of earthly ties where they are free from pain and sorrow. But others in this spiritual family yet remain in a natural body which is subject to pain and some times sorrow of heart because we are still in the world but not of the world. But we are looking forward to a grand and wonderful reunion one of these days when all of the redeemed of all ages shall be one unbroken family around the throne of God. Won't that be a wonderful day?

There is something about family ties and relationship which binds brothers and sisters and of course, other relatives also quite closely together. They

are interested in one another and they are concerned about each other. Of course these natural relationships are broken sometimes through jealousy, hatred, and various other evil influences. But I am speaking about family ties in the natural sense. It is a real thrill to me to see a family so closely knit together that they cannot be separated but often they work together in the same type of occupation or maybe side by side. Sometimes certain enterprises are operated almost exclusively by a family. Now just as this is true in the natural, even more so is it true in the spiritual family of God. You see, one of the things that holds people together is the fact that they have something in common. They see alike and think alike. How true this is with God's children. They share in a common cause of promoting the saving grace of our Lord, in carrying out the great commission to preach the gospel in all the world. So naturally when they meet together they have a common

cause and they are an encouragement one to another. Who of us can tell the value of a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. This would of course be the fellowship that we have with the father. Then as we walk in the light as he is in the light we have fellowship one with another and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin. Sometimes even brothers and sisters in the flesh do not understand the behavoir of one who is led by the spirit of God.

So many have made the remark that receiving the printed copies of The Mission Trail is to them like receiving a letter from the family. Well, this is exactly the purpose which we desire the little newsletter to serve each week. It seems to me that it binds us closer together as we share the joys and sorrows of one another in the Lord. So I am going to share with you a part of this letter from West Virginia which I recently received:

"Dear Brother and Sister Murphey,

"Greetings in Jesus precious name. Your good letter rec'd and am glad that you are interested in the Lord's work.

". . . Yes it is far more important that we are brothers and sisters in the Lord than to be just in the family. Often times if your family do not approve of your devotion to the Lord, they can make it quite difficult. But the Lord knows all about us. Thank the Lord for saving my soul.

"I was converted December 9th, 1911. I was quite young but I meant by the help of the Lord to live for Him. I find that the tests that come our way are beneficial, if we seek the mind of the Lord to lead us through.

"I am sending you a little poem that I wrote Jan. 2, 1962 about my conversion. How I thank the Lord for leading me to a group of people that set a good example. Many of them are gone on to glory but their lives live on. Many have modernized the services, but the Holy Spirit still will lead and guide if we are faithful. . .

"May your hearts be encouraged to go on in Gospel work until the Master says, 'Come up higher'.

"Continue to pray for me. I get real blessings in giving out the good books. The Lord is working. I am praying for the Lord's true work. Yours in Christ,
Flora Hinzman"

I appreciate this letter from our sister in the Lord. You see, there was a name in her family background which was common to our name also. So we have wondered if there might be some family ties somewhere there in the background. But of this we are not sure. But she sure said it right when she wrote, "Yes, it is far more important that we are brothers and sisters in the Lord than to be just in the family." I say so too. Now, would you like to hear the poem she wrote? Here it is:

A NEW LIFE

This day as I am thinking
Of all my life that's past
The heartaches and the sorrows,
With all the joys that last.

I can quite well remember,
So many years ago,
The big Revival meeting,
And the beautiful white snow.

The little country church,
From my home one mile away,

With real old fashioned people,
Who loved to meet and pray.

My soul was young and tender,
And the Spirit drew my heart
To go and seek for pardon,
From all my sins depart.

For fear of folks, what they might
say,
If I should shout aloud,
I longed to know I could be saved
At home, not in a crowd.

But earnestly I sought the Lord,
And pleaded for pardon too;
I felt my littleness in His sight,
There was nothing I could do.

The meetings lasted very late,
And precious souls were saved;
But for me, with my great yearning
I could not find the one I craved.

I kept seeking and kept searching,
To that altar nine nights I went,
Till I lost sight of all the people,
And was able to repent.

Oh the joy of that great moment!
My heart was filled with lasting
peace.
God gave to me the full assurance,
Christ's dying love would never cease!

Years have passed, and time is
fleeting--
Not much longer here to stay--
But for me, I'm glad I found Him,
Christ, my Saviour, that glad day!

Friends I found with fellowship sweet,
Others failed me sad to say;
But my precious loving Savior
Comes so near me when I pray.

Please, dear Lord, help me to be
faithful,

No matter what the test may be;
In all my ways acknowledge Thee,
Through life and in Eternity.

Flora E. Hinzman

Friends, I hope you notice from that poem how she became a member of this wonderful family of God. It was by repenting of her sins, forsaking the way of evil, and accepting God's way. In short it was through a new birth in Christ. God's children are born into his family, even as Jesus told Nicodemus, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3 Of course Nicodemus couldn't understand how a person could be born all over again of his earthly mother, but Jesus was speaking of a spiritual birth. He said, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

Perhaps you have seen some families which were very closely knit together. Well, let me say to you that this family of God is indeed very close one to another.

Friends, are you an outcast from your earthly family? Do you have no brothers and sisters? Or if you do, are they concerned about you? Then what you need is to be in God's family. If you are not already a part of it, I hope you will be soon.

Let us pray,
Our Father,

We had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of God than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. Bless the message as it goes out over the airwaves. Search out and deal with every honest heart who is seeking for the truth and bless each listener for we ask it in Jesus name. Amen

Now, if you desire to know more about God's family and would like a personal letter from us, please feel free to write us. You may do so by addressing your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla.

Here is a song, "I shall not be moved". The singers are Bob Forbes, Dale Doolittle, Melvin Doolittle, and Randall Flynn.

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

Testimonies

From Calif. : "Greetings of love in our dear Saviour's name. Enjoying the little paper, 'The Mission Trail', which is passed on to our neighbor who is 80. She is saving the Children's pages for a book. Nice to read the testimonies from the saints I don't see often. This finds me saved and enjoying living for the Lord. How good to trust in the Lord for our cares and to know here is a tremendous, unused power available at all times. It is ready to be called into action! This is the power of the Holy Spirit. We think of the Trinity as consisting first of the loving Father, God; then His Son, Jesus Christ; and third member of the Trinity as the Holy Spirit. Jesus knew that we needed a personal helper, and this is what the Holy Spirit is, a very personal and present help. Jesus said many things about the Holy Spirit. In John 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. We are not to let our hearts be troubled or be afraid."

--Sis. Lucille Allen

From Mo. : "Greetings in our saviour's name. Trust the few lines find you all well and enjoying salvation, such a wonderful gift from God. I am encouraged today to go right on and do the will of God. I am sending a little to help out. I enjoy the paper Mission Trail. May God keep and bless you folks as you labor for him. Pray for me. I need help in body and expecting it. Have had so many wonderful healings."

--Sis. Goldie Knapp

--o--

WASTED LIFE

A lonely cell, when night is near,
A crooked smile, a half shed tear.
The darkness waits as twilight falls,
To hear each prayer, each silent call.
From deep within a lonely soul,
So full of cheer in days of old.
In anguish cries, oh hear my plea,
Is this to be my destiny?
Must I be cast in this dark gloom,
For one mistake, is this my doom?
O hear my words, you young and free,
Don't wreck your life, don't follow me.
Be strong in fight, be brave in grief,
Be true to God, with pure belief.
Be all the things I might have been,
Had I not chosen this fruitless end.

--Frank J. Jones

--o--

From La. : "My heart is sad today as I write you. God called home my brother Walter Spurlock, on the 7th day of July 1971. His funeral was this past Friday. . . I have the blessed hope of meeting him again some day. I loved him so much. . . Now a friend has given me \$5.00 in loving memory. They are the J. P. Gilmore family of Jena, La. and asked me to use it in memory of Walter and I can't think of any better way, than to help get out the Mission Trail paper. Maybe some one will read the sweet message of the love of God, and want to have his love for themselves." --Sis. Mildred Spurlock

From Okla. : "Greeting in Jesus dear name. Trust you are all well. I am sure you are going to miss Kathleen. I pray they will both live good for God. It is all most time for the mail man and I want this in the mail. Here is 2 dollars to help a little in the good work you are doing for God. I still enjoy the paper. May God bless you all real good is my prayer. Much Christian love,"

--Sis. Ida Ruckman

--o--

From Ga. : 'So thankful to report victory over sin. Oh how sweet to walk in the pilgrim way and how bright the path grows from day to day. I am walking with the Lord. He is my only help and also is all we need. He is my everything. I mean he is our saviour, priest and king. He is our redeemer, our keeper, our teacher, our leader from one degree of grace into another. Yes, I trust in him, he is so good to us. He even lives through us. This Christian life of peace and love is joy unspeakable and full of glory. . . I thank the Lord that Jesus has never left me alone. . .'

--Sis. E. B. McNair

--o--

From Calif. : 'Greeting this morning in Jesus name. We are still enjoying the Mission Trail, love to read it and it helps me to read of God's people. I love the Lord this morning and thankful I am as well as I am, still need a touch of the Master's hand and to hold on by faith. Bro. Pruitt and wife, Sis. Anna Marie were here and Sis. Marie gave us a good message. We were all so glad to have them. I know you will miss your daughter so much, but mine are all moved. We have been putting corn in the freezer and getting green beans ready for canning. Thank the Lord for a good garden. Do pray for my husband. He is not well. . . Keep us on your prayer list and keep the good work going.'

--Sis. Ada Leach

From Ore. : 'I greet you in Jesus dear name. Can report victory in my soul. We sure enjoyed Sis. Frances, just wish you all could of come too. Just Patsy and baby came last night to prayer meeting. I told her I missed Julie . . . This has been a real pretty day, a little warmer than most of the meeting was. . . all here seem to be about as usual. There were several out to prayer meeting. . . Well our camp meeting is over, sure was a good meeting for the saints. There wasn't many outsiders come in, but we heard lots of good things for the saints and I for one want to walk in the light as it shines on my pathway. . . I hope Kathleen will be happy in her marriage. . . Your sister in Christ,'

--Sis. Emma Busch

--o--

". . . vain is the help of man. Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies."

Psalms 108:12, 13

--o--

From Miss. : 'Hope all of you are still enjoying a happy Christian life. Mother and I are fine. She still enjoys listening to me read the Bible, and all good Christian literature. We are still enjoying the little Mission Trail paper. My faith grows stronger, as I read your sermon, and the testimonies of the Mission Trail readers. I know we serve a God that hears and answers prayer, if we pray according to his will. My husband suffered from a brain tumor several months before the Lord called him home, and in our daily devotion he would pray for the Lord to give him ease and rest for a while, but he would always say in making his request, not my will but thine be done. I had this inscription put on our tomb stone, which is a double marker. . . Pray for me and my mother, and we will pray for all of you. Christian love,'

--Sis. Grace Gill

