GOD WITH GROW

Seventh Day Baptist Week of Prayer January 4-10, 1981

...pressing toward the mark Philippians 3:14

Sunday—January 4—Day of Prayer and Fasting
Sabbath—January 10—World Federation Day

Where there is no vision, the people perish.

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GENERAL CONFERENCE
DATE CHANGED
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Salem, West Virginia

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

The owners of the Sabbath Recorder hereby certify in accord with postal regulations the following information:

The editor is John D. Bevis, P.O. Box 2133, Florence, AL 35630; the publishers are the Seventh Day Baptist Publishing House, American Sabbath Tract Society, 510 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07061; the owner is the American Sabbath Tract Society, 510 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07061; that there are no known bondholders, mortgagees or other security holders and that the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed through the mails during the twelve months preceding this filing (dated September 24, 1980) is 1,422. The actual number of copies of a single issue mailed nearest to the filing date is 1,439.

Don Graffius is a lawyer specializing in estate planning and wills. He is a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Memorial Fund Trustees and has conducted workshops on wills and bequests at our General Conference. He will be assisting Mr. Gamble in the workshop on "Financial Planning as a Clergy Family" on several occasions. He will be sharing with our pastors and their spouses the responsibilities for good financial planning and Christian stewardship.

Barbara C. Saunders, wife of Dean Saunders is a housewife and mother and director of music for two churches. She has been a pastor's wife and will lead a seminar for clergy spouses concurrent with several sessions of the ministers conference. She will conduct such seminars at the 1978 session of the S.D.B. Ministers Conference.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST MINISTERS CONFERENCE

The 1981 session of the biennial Seventh Day Baptist Ministers Conference will be held in Daytona Beach, Florida, February 18-24, 1981. The sessions will be held at the Seventh Day Baptist Church. The cost of the Conference is $30.00 for each participant. Bible studies on I and II Timothy will be conducted by pastors, who will also lead in worship and prayer. Denominational leaders will have opportunity to share programs and insights as well as listen to the concerns of pastors. The Conference is being subsidized by the Continuing Education Fund of the Center on Ministry.
We'll focus in on our topic by using a diagram outline of the topic phrase.

Now let's see if we can get a picture of what we are considering. Close your eyes and put on mental blinders that shut off all outside distractions. Now put a mirror in front of your thoughts and think of "YOU". Think of the things you see and sometimes would rather not see. Note your strengths, abilities, talents, personality, looks, joys, sorrows, failures, disappointments, dislikes...this is "YOU". Of course, "YOU" also includes me as I share this with you.

God would have us consider this topic together, not as it applies to others, but as it applies to each individual that hears these words.

Change your mental picture, now, and put the "YOU" in action, and see yourself coming before the Lord in a personal audience...with all the throes of heaven witnessing the event. Called by name, surrounded, but with all the attention focused on "YOU". See His radiance, see His glory and sense His power and wisdom. Feel His peace and joy, and understand His grace and unmerited justice based on His very nature. Then, realize with a rush of relief; He's forgiven me! He's forgiven me! Can you understand Isaiah, not knowing the blessing of the blood of Jesus, standing before God's throne and saying: "Woe is me, for I am undone," Can you also feel the joy of hearing from God's voice, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

So we begin to grasp what it means to please God, but let's shift the scene once again, and get the full picture of what we want to discuss. Let's take a look at the qualifying phrase, "through serving others." "But first, serve the Lord." And the Lord speaks back and says, "That's right but they are My image and My creation; bring them redemption in my sight and see the ones that you have successfully and joyfully served. See the ones that have received you and your love in Christ's name. These are people that you could just throw your arms around and hug in the Lord as you've been blessed by giving and receiving care for one another. Oh, that's a beautiful feeling, and completely gratifying. How tragic for one who has never experienced that feeling and need.

But also think of those who have been unable to serve to this point, people that perhaps you feel you cannot possible serve, and maybe you do not want to serve in the least, the people that Pastor Gabriel Bejani called "Mission Impossible," those whose hands you shake simply as a traditional obligation and gesture, or those whom you render the traditional "Hello" because they turned and noticed you before you could slip by unnoticed. This then is the real area of challenge to our lives.

The command of Scripture is clear and emphatic in its requirements on our servanthood in this matter. Matthew 25:31-46 states that one of the separating points between the sheep and the goats is: "When the Son of Man comes in His glory..." and please me by serving others as I serve Christ. I have another understanding from the Lord that what God has the most interest in, you and where the greatest victories can be won is amongst those you can tolerate least and fear most. In these relationships, Christ's love is perfectly demonstrated in and through us, for we know that except for Him it would be impossible for us to love them. How often we limit both our opportunities and our efforts to serve those, not through the problems that we encounter and the people we deal with are beyond our hope and are completely un­classifiable. Look beyond your "comfort zones," but do we act accordingly? Is our belief real to us? Our faith and confidence in the Lord should see "potential miracle" and "fantasy victory" written all over the lives of those that seem the most rebellious.

My family and I have opened our home on several occasions to those "sinners" who might be judged to be "un-touchables" by those who choose to judge. I've had one person who professed to be under Christ say "They had their chance, how can you do this for them again?" Simply, the answer must be, because I'm aware that God has forgiven me in more than I like to recall, and still continues to forgive me through Christ when I still slip and fall short of what He wants me to be and do. Since I am created in His image and His Way, I am to do as he has done to me, or to expect from Him what we have done to others. Without His presence in my life, I'd return to do the very things that He has overcome in me. I will not condemn in others. Even now under the grace and mercy of Christ, I'm grateful that God doesn't keep score on how well I'm doing. I know that I would not stand a chance of sharing His presence through­out eternity. Except for the righteousness of Jesus, we are in great need of understanding; God doesn't say to us like the farmer said to his stubborn mule: "That's one." Rather He says: "That's the once and for all for which I gave my one and only begotten Son."

God's system of balances and weights in Jesus Christ is so different from ours. Our justice and relationships to others are built like a teeter-totter. Our relationship with Him is developing, and we want to look down at those who are with Him, and compare our own mediocrity with His. We are lifted up so we tend to push others down.

God's new scale and balance works on an equilibrium principle that requires that both sides of the scale be equal at all times. If your relationship with God grows, your relationship with all people is equally lifted up, and you are a better servant and witness of God's presence in you. If you push other people down, "knock" them for that which they do or do not do, your relationship with God will be pushed down. The cross is the fulcrum of God's scale of Justice, and the more of our burdens and failures that are put to rest on the cross beam, the higher good we will be to glorify God and serve our fellow men.

God's voice, "I am created in His image and His Way; bring them redemption in my sight and me!

The key to this whole discussion is the realization that you cannot give of the things of God if you have not already received them yourself. And you cannot hold on to what you have unless you are ready to share what you receive. As you share what you have received from God in all parts of your life, with those who need what you have, you prepare yourself to be ready to receive more of God's presence and blessings in you. In other words, as you grow in Christ and receive more forgiveness, you will discover that more forgiveness is channeled through you to give to others...But you can limit that spilling of God's forgiveness into others lives by holding your peace and saying nothing. And you must be realized that you cannot generate a "look alike" copy by any of your efforts that will accomplish God's purpose and will. For instance, you cannot sit down and determine "I will love Johnson Johnny because I am supposed to do it." You may try, but you will discover that it is not a true love for the person, and as the first difficulty or failure on his part all the old dislikes reappear to haunt us. Only God's love given to us and showing through us can love the sinner above the sin.

The forgiveness and love and service you give must literally come out of which is in you because of the measure of Christ that you have yielded your life to receive. There's a little chorus that says, "I want more of Jesus, more and more and more. I want more of Jesus than I've ever had before. I want more of His rich love so rich and full and free, I want more of Jesus so I'll give Him more of me." What comes to us from God is ours, but not as a possession but rather for our use in working with ourselves and working with each other.

What holds down your growth and service to God? It is not the need for greater faith, nor is it ability (if you keep yourself available to God, He will provide all the abilities that you need), but rather our limitation is found in our limitations. How can you do this for them again? Except for the righteousness of Jesus, we are in great need of understanding; that God received from Christ to sinful men, as He has given to them and us as sinners, too. God will not give you more so you can give it away.

Are we ready to share as God desires, or will we continue to judge those who are worthy to have and share our time and the truth that we have within us? God is equal in His love and mercy towards all; can those who have given to us and showing through us can love the sinner above the sin.

We may never perfectly fulfill this work of God in us, but it must always be our realistic goal and expectation that we are to lovingly and without judgment serve all of God's creation and especially people who were created to bear His image. James 4:17 warns us that if we know to do what is right and refuse to do it, then we have sinned. If we fail to show love and mercy and forgiveness, we have sinned as badly as those who we have passed by on the other side of the road.

Let us recall that if we are in Jesus and Jesus is in us, then our relationships with people will be shaped and colored by His presence and the tones of His love in us. The way we act reveals clearly the true degree that we have yielded to God's control in us. The Lord pleads, "Look around you and see the ones that seem the most rebellious. Only God's love given to us and showing through us can love the sinner above the sin."

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My prayer is that we will let God use us to develop loving and forgiving relationships with all people with whom we come into contact, that God's work may be accomplished through us, and His name glorified before the nations.

Pleasing God Through Service to Others

Rev. Russell Johnson
Verona, NY

Pleasing God Through Service to Others

The Sabbath Recorder

January 1981
One of the most amazing differences between the Bible message—the message of God to men—and the way in which the world acts is the way in which the world criticizes and tears down while the Bible affirms and builds up.

Of course the Bible spends a great deal of time telling us that we are sinners, that the wages of sin is death, that hell awaits the unrepentant; but at the same time the Bible affirms our worth and lifts us up in our own eyes and makes sure that we know we are loved and cherished and provided for in both this life and in the next. Just listen!

"...What is man that thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that thou dost care for him? Yet thou hast made him little less than God, and dost crown him with glory and honor. Thou hast given him dominion over the works of thy hands..." (RSV)

How could the worth of each person be expressed in any more definite terms?—only a little less than God! That is as hard to believe as any of the miracle stories! We don't see ourselves that way, and we certainly don't see others that way.

It seems to be a hard lesson for the world to learn, that each man and woman and child is loved by God, which is marvelous! Their minds can delve into the values which are the stuff of which decisions are formed. It seems to be hard for the world to learn, that God prepared each person for both in this life and in the next. Just listen!

"You have been called by God to be His own. So then, I urge you to live a life of complete humility and gentleness, a life of patience, a life in which you always lovingly bear with one another. I urge you to be eager to preserve that unity which the Spirit can give, a unity in which you are bound together in a perfect relationship to one another."

Does that sound as great to you as it does to me? He is writing to individuals of great worth, who can relate to each other under God in all these wonderful and fruitful ways. He goes on:

"Each of you has received his own share of grace in proportion as the free gift of Christ has given it to you. That is why it is said: "He ascended on high, after he had taken his prisoners captive, and gave gifts to men." Their function is to equip God's consecrated people for the service they must give, it is their function to build up the body of Christ. Then we shall go on to be one united band of brothers, one in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God. Then we shall grow into mature manhood, until we reach the stature of Christ in all his completeness."

And in another place, he carried on this same great idea:

"Christ can enable men to live in a right relationship with each other. It is this unifying power of his which must dictate your every decision, for you were meant to be one united body."

So Paul described the capabilities of persons under God. The description implies the ability of maturity. He had done it either because he lacked knowledge or because some inner demand—something within himself—heeded someone who depended upon him. And in so doing, he had done violence to human personality. He had denigrated the worth of the individual. He had held back the spiritual growth of one of God's children.

Now we don't have to be professional counselors to be involved in this invidious sin. It is easy for us to take part in tearing down the confidence of another. We do it all the time. We do it by refusing to accept any of their suggestions, by laughing at their remarks which are not meant to be funny, by making decisions for them, and by demanding that they follow our standards. We do it by simply demanding that others look to us as the authorities from which they are to receive their answers.

In relation to this, I want you to hear some of the wonderful things Paul wrote about persons—Christian persons. Perhaps then you will wonder, as I sometimes do, why we treat other persons as we do.
Board of Christian Education Goals

The goals of the Board of Christian Education, Inc., are to help people grow in SCRIPTURE UNDERSTANDING, NURTURING IN THE FAITH, FUNDAMENTALS OF CHRISTIAN LIVING, and OUTREACH.

Each of the committees is involved in promoting all of the goals but has a specific area of major concern in which to work.

Promoting growth in SCRIPTURE UNDERSTANDING and NURTURING IN THE FAITH, are the primary purposes of the Resource Development and Church School committees. Lesson material for Scripture study helping to develop a personal faith in Jesus Christ is in the Helping Hand written by Rev. David Clarke, the Teacher's Mini-Lab.

Scripture Memorizing a Challenge

There are several passages in the Bible that it is important to learn the Scriptures as an aid to living a Christian lifestyle. Psalm 119 verse 11 says, "Thy word I hid in my heart that I may not sin against thee," and verse 105, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

In this year of denominational emphasis on Nurture, Seventh Day Baptists should make a special effort to learn as much Scripture as possible. This learning in the classroom should be a challenge, a new and exciting activity rewarded by the joy of achievement.

The first step in learning is understanding.

1. List the difficult words, look them up in the dictionary. Put a picture beside each word which explains its meaning.
2. Help the student understand his personal involvement. Substitute personal pronouns or names where possible. Example: "Thy word...that John might not sin against thee." (John 15:26)
3. Act out or paint a picture about the verses physical activity will cause the students to think about the meaning.
4. As a class, select a hymn or write a tune to accompany the verse. It is better to spend more than one session, if necessary, to learn one Scripture passage well than to read one verse each lesson period. Children who come to class early would enjoy working on a puzzle on the verses being learned. Use your imagination, make acrostics, crosswords, rebus, Crossword or jigsaw puzzles. Plan your work so that you have time to give personal help as needed—early arrivers may come for extra love and attention—be ready to meet that need.

Alcoholism

"The death-and-disease approach to teen-age smoking is meaningful to kids," so says an article in the New York Times. Efforts to curb teen-age smoking has mixed success. The attitudes and example of parents and teachers still carries the greatest impact. "Disseminating information does not work," an American Cancer Society official said. Building self-esteem and considering causes of smoking is variously effective. All this commentary could well be duplicated in the field of alcohol education.

Board of Christian Education, Inc.

Bylaws;

Article II—Objectives

"The purposes and objectives of such corporation shall be to promote the cause of education in general, to develop the educational convictions of the people of the churches represented in the SCR, to promote, to make educational surveys, to plan and distribute literature and periodicals, and to employ such representatives as may promote the purposes of the corporation in the church schools, camps, people's organizations, colleges, and ministerial education." (Continued from page 7)

Little Less Than God

(Continued from page 7)

Each one to respond to God in innumerable ways. It implies the capability to grow in knowledge and in grace. It implies the capability to decide and to set a goal and carry out a meaningful approach to that goal. It implies that human beings are creative, and when they are under God's directive, they have capabilities of which they themselves have not yet dreamed. This is why Paul is so consistent that—

"You must forgive each other. You must bear with each other. You must live in harmony with each other."

SENSITIVE TO EACH OTHER

It requires sensitivity to another's need if we are to minister to that need without destroying the individual we try to serve.

MATURE

Now what did he mean when he taught "mature teaching?" What is "mature teaching?" if it is about salvation, repentance, the law of Moses, eternal life? What else is there? If we are not to

January 1981

(Continued on page 9)
The 1980's have been designated as a Decade of Discipleship for Seventh Day Baptists. The ten year period is keyed to growth—both spiritual and numerical!

Specific statistics for the first year of the decade are not yet available; but evidence accumulates showing a new growth look to the denomination: new inquiries being made every day, new groups meeting, new churches organized, new members received, new ministers ordained.

Encouraged by the "new look," we should take a new look at growth potentials and how we can use effectively the "tools" of growth at hand to assure reaching our goal: double in the decade!

Our Conference theme for 1981, "Grow with God" (Phil. 3:12-14), is appropriate and timely. God's expectation for Christians is that they grow and the church should grow. The directive of the Great Commission is to "go" and grow.

"There are some other evidences of life," states Michael Harper in his book Let My People Grow, "but growth is the most important and reliable one. If something is growing, it's alive. God's people must be set free to grow. At the same time we must never forget that whatever men may do—some growing as pioneers, others nurturing what has been planted and has germinated—it is only God who gives growth. (I Cor. 3:7)"

In the first chapter of the book which analyzes current-day ministry and leadership in the church, Rev. Harper points and demonstrates the fact that the church is "in the growth business." It is intended to grow both numerically and in spiritual maturity, he says. Throughout the book he highlights various implications of church growth with challenging and thought provoking statements such as the following:

...let us strive "to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace"...

There needs to be growth in maturity before there can be growth in membership of our churches.

Power has been concentrated in a few hands, and this has produced in the laity generations of sermon tasters and sacramentalists—watching "the machine" and taking the sacrament, rather than being actively involved in the ministry.

God calls His people to be "a pilgrim people" because He is a pilgrim God, who is always "on the move"—actively engaged in the welfare and well-being of His people.

Our responsibility is to see that the renewal deepens and widens as it sees and hears more clearly what the Holy Spirit is doing and saying.

Of course, we are designated disciples (at least so far as the Seventh Day Baptist part of Kingdom work is concerned). Responsible for expediting both spiritual maturity and numerical growth.

«There are resources for growth inherited in our heritage. As a denomination we have a long and distinguished history. We have substantial churches in many places; a tradition of respected, dedicated leadership; and a record of devoted lay involvement in community betterment in Christ's name.

«Procedures and concepts of growth are already being applied with success. Commitment to Growth has set the stage; Decision to Discipleship is serving to activate a growing number of church members; through radio broadcasts, newspaper advertising, and the use of such techniques as Evangelism Explosion, many churches are reaching out to make converts and bring in new members.

There is an important place for each one of us in the growth process. We can support (by prayers, by our time and talents, and by our resources) those activities which deserve to be continued and expanded. We can assist our churches in establishing growth goals, using the evaluation form distributed by the Coordinating Leadership Team; then see to it that copies of the forms are filed in the General Conference office for future reference—a means of accountability.

These specific matters—and more—we can participate in collectively. But undoubtedly most important is our individual and very personal commitment to spiritual growth. Year Two (1981) in our Decade of Discipleship is devoted especially to Nurture—and that Nurture begins with you and me!

So won't you make a New Year's resolution with me, 1) to review all good literature available on the subject of growth, 2) to study the Bible with growth in mind and 3) pray that each one of us may "Grow with God" this year as never before.

On that basis, the new year will truly have a new look!
Growing a Church

Dr. Win Arn, of the Institute for American Church Growth, has interviewed or polled some 4,000 adult converts on the West Coast. Arn wanted to know what brought these people into the church. His findings are instructive:

6-8%—Just walked in
2-3%—Attracted by church's programs
6-12%—Attracted by Pastor
3-4%— Came out of special need
1-2%— Visited by church members
3-4%— Came through Church School class
70-80%—Invited by relatives and friends

He also found that less than one-tenth of 1% came as a result of "mass evangelism." The conclusion is obvious: we are all in a position to influence the faith of those closest to us and we can do it better than anyone else.

However, the church's participation in the work of our Lord is essential. The church's profile as you and your church, make new discoveries, move in a positive direction to follow Jesus Christ, and enjoy the joy and purpose of our work in the sharing of His Truth with others.

How Missions-Minded Is Your Church?
by Rev. Leon R. Lawton

IF Christ gave His disciples/followers the Great Commission and this was recorded by each of the Gospel writers and again in Acts 1:8, it must be an important fact. No other word of our Savior has been given by each account of His life, plus... He has given His church their marching orders.

But when we are not aware just where we are, it is difficult to know where we are going and how to get to there. Last November a "self-evaluation profile" was shared with each Seventh Day Baptist pastor, which was designed to help each congregation answer the question, "How Missions-Minded Is Your Church?"

HOW did this help you in discovery? In gaining insights on just what might be involved in missions? In setting some forward-looking goals for the New Year—1981? In making decisions relating to your church's participation in the work of our Lord through the mission outreach of Seventh Day Baptists.

When was the first step taken? Who is responsible? What are the specific goals to be reached? Why were certain objectives set? Are they realistic?

The profile for the local church's mission ministry involves five areas: 1. Leadership; 2. Strategy; 3. Stimulation; 4. Sending; 5. Support. A rule of measurement was suggested in two specific ways to support each area.

Enter into the exciting experiences of a Year of Vision as you, and your church, make new discoveries, move in a positive direction to follow Jesus Christ, and enjoy the joy and purpose of our Father's Work in the sharing of His Truth with others.

The Sabbath Recorder

AN OPEN LETTER TO SEVENTH DAY BAPTISTS

Dear Brethren,

Something has just happened at the church in Memphis which we feel a great desire to share with our brothers and sisters throughout the country. We have just finished a three-day revival with Brother Mynor Soper, with music provided by the Light Bearers. It is impossible to completely express in writing the excitement felt by the Memphis church. Having seen the results here we feel that such meetings could be a very important part of our goals to "double in a decade." Incorporating this into your programs would be an exciting, additional way to get your name before the public and give many new opportunities for the congregation to be involved.

One new, very effective concept introduced as part of the Memphis revival is of house meetings. Brother Soper came in one week before the revival to attend meetings held in members' homes scattered all over the area. The possibilities of this approach are unlimited. Member participation was great; response from those unfamiliar with Seventh Day Baptists was fantastic. The main goal of such meetings was to give members a chance to invite friends, relatives, neighbors, and work acquaintances to their homes for an opportunity to meet the evangelist in an informal atmosphere. This personal contact is so effective. The format used here allowed for a time of singing, a discussion about the Light Bearers and the evangelist and then a general sharing time to discuss whatever might be on someone's mind. This led to some particularly meaningful conversations with those searching for Christ, and with those looking for answers to today's problems. This concept calls for commitment on the part of the individual members to go out and do what we really must do if we truly expect to double.

A pre-revival advertising program can also be effectively used to make our name prominent in the community. While we don't have the resources of the larger denominations in promoting revivals, much can be done at little or no cost.

While Mynor Soper is known throughout the churches, his preaching at this revival was stronger and more dynamic that I have ever heard him preach.

The timely messages were Spirit-filled, pointing the lost to Christ, and giving spiritual growth and comfort to the Body. Praise God for this brother who is making this effort to share the Good News.

It would be difficult to fully describe the blessing received from the Light Bearers' presence. Many were touched by their part in the revival. This new team is going to be used by God for His glory and to spread the name of Seventh Day Baptists.

We recommend highly the Light Bearers being used in our churches.

Personal testimonies by new church members and new Christians were given during the meetings and were meaningful to all, as we all sometimes take our Lord and His church for granted. The unsaved were able to see what a difference Jesus can make.

Again, there is no way I can fully describe the new joy, new spirit, and new unity within the church here, but it is real and it will continue.

While we may not have the resources of the Graham Crusade Team, we do have many dedicated and talented brothers and sisters who can pull together and present a Spirit-filled, Spirit-led revival for our people, and for your community.

We now have new members in Memphis because of these meetings, some very powerful rededications, new contacts ministered to and to follow up on, and greater vision by the church. Doors were opened to our members that we didn't know could be opened. Attendance one night of the revival was nearly double what our regular attendance is. Think what that might mean for your church, whether it might be those members who are slack in service to the Body that might be drawn back or mostly new visitors as ours were.

We have truly seen our Lord work in a glorious way. We prayerfully urge you to consider such a series of meetings in your church. Additional benefits too numerous to mention are possible, and even probable by giving God this chance to work through His people. May you each have an opportunity to share in this joy and unity with us.

In His service,
The Church at Memphis
Pastor Bill Shoffner

January 1981
MISSIONARY VISION
by Rev. L. S. Thanga Rangoon, Burma

Volunteer workers building the Grace, Burma, SDB Church.

Scripture text: Acts 16:9, 10

Christ is alive. It is knowing It is letting men know that Jesus Christ conquered death, hell and the grave. It is letting men know that Christ is willing and able to meet their every need. Vital part in the missionary ship of Christ and to the leading of the Holy Spirit. We must recognize that missions is the main work of the Church, and not merely a subsidiary activity.

Christian missions is a world wide enterprise. God loves the world (John 3:16). Christ died for the sins of all the people in the world (1 John 2:2). He commissioned us to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15).

The Great Commission which gives a Scriptural foundation for missions is found in five places in the New Testament. It is a close of each of the Gospels and at the opening of the book of Acts.

Matthew records the Great Commission in this way: "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always; even unto the end of the world" (Matthew 28:18-20).

Five Vital Lessons

There are five vital lessons for us to learn from these words: 1. Since the risen Christ has all authority in heaven and earth, we are to go forth in His name, depending on Him to work through us.

2. We are to go with the Gospel. We are to go to our friends and to our loved ones; and we are to go to the ends of the earth.

3. We are to go to every nation, all over the world, to the regions beyond and to every creature.

4. We are to baptize those who exercise saving faith in Christ. Baptism is an outward expression of an inward faith.

5. We are to teach those who are saved. One of the great failures of the Church is that it has failed to maintain proper balance between proclaiming the Gospel and in feeding the sheep.

Apostle Paul says: We are Christ's ambassadors. Since we are ambassadors, God committed to us the ministry of reconciliation to tell to men everywhere the saving grace of God (2 Cor. 5:19, 20). It is the willing of God for every Christian to be a witness for Christ and have a vital part in the missionary enterprise (Acts 1:8).

God is looking today for men and women that He can use in the great task of world evangelism. Ezekiel 22:30 says: "I sought for a man among them, that should make up and defend you from attack, but I found none." It is not possible for anyone among us who is willing to sacrifice self and personal interest for the sake of God!

There is no other man in the Bible and out of the Bible that God has used in such a mighty way as He uses the apostle Paul. He stands head and shoulders above all of the other servants of Christ. The Spirit of God used him to write thirteen of the books of the New Testament. He made three major missionary journeys. He was used of God to establish churches in both Asia and in Europe.

One of the things that made the apostle Paul the greatest missionary of all time was his sense of responsibility. He recognized that because of what Christ had done for him, he was a debtor to all men. He was willing to labor and to suffer if he could bring others to Christ. Paul was the great champion of grace but recognized that in coming to Christ, he had the responsibility of telling others about Christ.

Paul was making a missionary journey when a vision appeared in the night and asked him to come over to Macedonia to help. What was his reaction? He immediately decided to go and preach the Gospel to them. This is missionary vision. The positive response is willingness! What will be your own response to the present day Macedonian call for help from all parts of the world? Are you prepared to go? If not, are you willing to pray and give more for missionary work?

There are three great outlets of missionary energy; that is—by praying, by going, and by giving. Some must go; some must let go; and some must help go. The most vital part is sacrifice.

You remember how Jesus sat one day over against the treasury and watched the people as they brought their gifts. And you recall His startling words: "Truly, I say unto you, this poor widow has cast in more than they all; for all these have of their abundance cast in, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had for her whole living" (Mark 12:42).

How much have we really given? Have we cast in out of our abundance? Are we willing to sacrifice our comfort, our time, our talent, our money, our life? Are we ready to give all we have? If not, we are not ready to serve God and to follow Christ.

Jesus had a holy determination to do the will of God at all costs. He said: "I must work the works of Him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh when no man can work." (John 9:4). And because of this determination He was able to say: "I brought glory to you here on earth by doing everything you told me to do." (John 17:4).

Paul had this same spirit. In the face of stonings, imprisonments, and privations of every kind, he said: "None of these things can move me, neither my life dear unto myself." When the time came for him to put his head on the executioner's block, he could say: "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight for my Lord Jesus, and through it all I have finished the race. I have put my head on the Lord." (2 Tim. 4:6, 7).

The Bible says: "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18). Millions of people have never heard the Gospel because Christian people do not have a vision. We need a vision of Christ, of the risen Christ, and we need a vision of a lost world.

When Isaiah saw the Lord, he also saw himself as he really was. When he experienced the cleansing power of the Lord, he heard the voice of the Lord saying: "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" (Isaiah 6:8, 9).

If we know and love the Lord, we will have a vision of the world, and we will give ourselves to God so that He can work through us to bring the lost to Christ. We will have a missionary vision when we obey the commandment of Christ and lift our eyes and look on the fields which are white already to harvest (John 4:35).

God wants every one of us here—all the Seventh Day Baptists—to have a vital part in world evangelism, and at the judgment seat of Christ every one of us will give an account to God for what we have done or for what we have failed to do.

The body of Christ—the church—is joined together in which every joint supplies, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part (Eph. 4:16). You and I as members of the body of Christ are called "joints" and "parts". Every joint and every part must function properly, if the body is to be healthy.

In working together as the body of Christ, every one of us has a vital part. Here are a few practical applications:

Firstly, God asks every one of us for full surrender to Him.

Secondly, we must discover the purpose and program of God for the age in which we live. This purpose is revealed to us in the Word of the living God.

Thirdly, God is still saying: "Who shall ascend and who will go for us?" God wants some of us to go to neighbors, friends, and loved ones. He wants some to go across the sea. He is the Lord of the harvest.

Fourthly, Jesus not only said: "Go ye therefore," but He also said: "Pray ye therefore." God works in answer to believing prayers. The missionary on the field and national workers are sustained by the prayers of the people of God.

Fifthly, money is a vital part for the missionaries and national workers. If we love the Lord, we shall find joy in giving for His work.

(Continued on page 20)
### January 1981

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**January 4**  
Day of Prayer and Fasting

### February 1981

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**Mission Notes**  
shares facts in RECORDER

**AV Presentations**  
on SDB Missions

### March 1981

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**Prayer for Missions**  
PRAYER CORNER in the RECORDER

### April 1981

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**World Federation Sabbath**  
January 10

### May 1981

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**Prayer for Missions**  
PRAYER CORNER in the RECORDER

### June 1981

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**Meetings**  
World Federation Sabbath: January 10

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#### Ideas for your 1981 Year of Vision

- **January 4**: Day of Prayer and Fasting
- **February**: Mission Notes share facts in RECORDER
- **March**: AV Presentations on SDB Missions
- **April**: Prayer for Missions
- **May**: Mission Notes
- **June**: Prayer Corner
- **July**: World Federation Sabbath: January 10
- **August**: A Missions Bulletin Board in every church!
- **September**: "Adopting" a mission project for regular support
- **October**: FAITH MISSION GIMM: a tried, exciting plan for growth
- **November**: Mission stories shared in your church from "MISSIONS"
- **December**: Mission Projects of my Church

---

"Where there is no vision the people perish." — Prov. 29:18 KJV
THE TORONTO, CANADA, SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH

The first Seventh Day Baptist church “North of the Border”

- became a member of the Allegheny Association
- installed Rev. Joe A. Samuels as Pastor
- purchased its own building
- became the first legal Seventh Day Baptist group in Canada
- plans to become a member church of the SDB General Conference (USA and Canada) when the Bylaws allow such in August 1981.

Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Seventh Day Baptist Church, 45 Fisher St.

The congregation of the Toronto, Canada, Seventh Day Baptist Church. Pastor Joe A. Samuels, on the left, was installed October 1980.

KARL G. STILLMAN

was born in Pawcatuck, CT, May 12, 1896, the son of Albert R. Stillman and Taste Elizabeth Larkins Stillman, an eighth generation descendant of George Stillman I who immigrated to this country in the late 1600’s.

He and his wife, Lady Pickering had a son, George II, whom they left behind in England feeling that it was unwise to bring a young child to a country where Indians made life hazardous. Lady Pickering died enroute to this country and was buried at sea. Her husband settled in Hadley, MA, where there was a military post and established himself as a trader with the Indians. At the time there was a Lieutenant Smith at the post who had an attractive daughter whom George married for his second wife. They moved to Wethersfield, CT, where he opened a general store and developed a very prosperous business.

When son George, who had been born in England, reached young manhood he decided to come to this country to see his father in Wethersfield. For some reason he decided to go to Boston to look up some Stillmans he had heard lived in that area.

His route took him through Westminster where he was astounded to find its inhabitants doing their washing and performing other forms of work on Sunday. His trip to Boston did not find any Stillman relatives and remembering the fact that the people in Westminster were observing Sunday as the Sabbath, he decided to go back there and “show those deluded people the error of their ways” but as he said, “Instead of convincing them of their error, I became convinced myself and married Deborah Crandall.”

On that slender thread has developed the many descendants through the years who have accepted and observed the Sabbath, beginning in Westminster and spreading throughout the country.

Mr. Stillman attended the West Broad Street School which included one year in the Pawcatuck High School which went out of existence in 1910 upon the charter being dissolved and schools to a town school system. A central high school in Stonington was established in Stonington, CT, from which Mr. Stillman was graduated in 1913 as Salutatorian of his class.

January 1981

Mr. Herlitz Condison (on left), leader of the Toronto church for several years, teaches the adult Sabbath School lesson.

The Sabbath Recorder

PERSONALITY

KARL G. STILLMAN

by Rev. Everett Harris

Consideration of a college to attend was given by his parents and Alfred University was on the list but removed because some students from our area were married to other students before finishing their studies. It was decided that he should not go to a coeducational institution.

The Latin teacher in Pawcatuck High School, George W. Woodward, had attended Dartmouth College. He described the small town environment of Hanover, citing the advantages of an all-male college, located a hundred miles from any town or city of appreciable size. A brother, Jesse Wilbur Stillman, had preceded Mr. Stillman three years earlier going to Dartmouth and the folks thought he could keep an eye on his brother for the one year before he would graduate in 1914, so here he went, graduating in 1917 with the Degree of Bachelor of Science.

The first World War had broken out in April 1917 and had left the college established the policy of granting degrees to Seniors who enlisted before graduation. All the students were afraid of being drafted into some branch of the service they would not like, so many classmates volunteered and left college. Mr. Stillman was inclined to do so also but his father insisted that he was to earn his diploma by finishing the term and not have it handed to him “on a silver plate.”

And so he stayed on and graduated on June 15, 1917 and then enlisted in the Ordnance Department of the Army. The last semester at college was spent in the Amos Tuck School of Business Administration and Finance, the first such school established in this country.

Mr. Stillman was called into service on July 19, 1917, at the Watertown, MA, Arsenal and in September was transferred to the Rainbow Division there, at Camp Mills, Mineola, Long Island, NY, and in October he was in France, landing at St. Nazaire and then assigned to Intermediate Ordnance Depot No. 4 near Bourges. He was there only a short time when special orders came through detaching him from the Ordnance Department and assigning him to the staff of the Stars and Stripes, the official military newspaper. He never knew why he was selected or who was in Pershing’s Headquarters who was responsible for the order.

Continued
Hank Newlands: This small community is the residence of Jan Lew, secretary of the SBD's in Nederland and vice-president of the SBD World Federation. He helps to edit and publish the Anchor for his country and The Link as well. He has the address list on computer. He helped to host Leon R. Lawton on his recent visit.

Missions Today

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<th>FEBRUARY 1981</th>
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<td><strong>PRAY FOR:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1- Missionaries Rodney and Camille Henry and family, Cebu City, the Philippines</td>
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<td>2- Conference President, Rev. Charles Craftus, Los Angeles, CA</td>
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<td>3- The effectiveness of tracts shared this month and the Tract Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>4- Joel O'Meara, one of the SBD leaders in the Kuu, Kenya, mission</td>
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<tr>
<td>5- My friends who do not know Christ and my mission to them</td>
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<tr>
<td>6- Rev. L. Sawi Thanga, General Secretary of the Burma SBD Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>7- Seventh Day Baptists around the world as they meet for worship and fellowship</td>
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<tr>
<td>8- The officers of the Women's Society Board in Los Angeles, CA</td>
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<td>9- The ministry in Sung Kim and the house churches in Korea</td>
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<td>10- The many persons involved in preparing for Ministers Conference beginning Feb. 19</td>
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<td>11- The Seventh Day Baptist witness in Cameroon, West Africa</td>
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<td>12- The pastor and leaders of my church</td>
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<tr>
<td>13- Missionaries David and Betty Pearson, Malawi, Africa</td>
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<td>14- SABBATH SCHOOL MISSION OFFERINGS—a special emphasis in many churches</td>
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<td>15- Mill Yard Seventh Day Baptist Church and Pastor Pant, London, England</td>
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<td>16- Your General Council as it meets in Daytona Beach, FL</td>
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<td>17- Medical Director Mrhu and the medical workers in Malawi, Africa</td>
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<td>18- Mission Mountain, Chaua, MS—the special ministry for handicapped people</td>
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<td>19- Ministers Conference sessions in Dayton Beach, FL, beginning today</td>
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<td>20- Pastor Samuel and other workers in Gaya, South America</td>
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<td>21- My responsibility to visiters at my church</td>
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<td>22- G. P. Natsiki, Secretary of the Central Africa Conference of Seventh Day Baptists, Malawi, Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>23- Leaders and speakers at Ministers Conference, Daytona Beach, FL</td>
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<td>24- Seventh Day Baptist Missions and their outreach ministries</td>
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<td>25- Our pastors as they travel home from Ministers Conference</td>
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<td>26- Rev. Nathan B. Thompson, Corresponding Secretary, Jamaican SBD Conference</td>
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<td>27- Director of Church Extension, Moyer, PA</td>
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<td>28- New possibilities for outreach and growth in Brazil</td>
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<td>A Prayer Reminder for Each Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-Pastor William E. Shoffner and the SDB Church in Montgomery, TN</td>
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<td>2-Pastors and leaders of the SDB witness in Nigeria, West Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-Ford Pastor John Cameron and his ministry in NC, SC and TN</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-Rev. B. John V. Rao and pastors in the SDB Conference of India</td>
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<td>5-Pastor Stephane Sauvain and the church in the Bay Area, CA</td>
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<td>6-Pastors and leaders of SDB churches in Australia</td>
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<td>7-I hope to be open to God's message through His Word and my pastor</td>
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<td>8- Elder Nieuwstraten and other leaders in The Netherlands SBD churches</td>
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<td>9- Deans Herbert E. Saunders and the SDB seminary students</td>
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<td>10-Rev. Joseph Newlands, pastor of the SDB Church in Toronto, Canada</td>
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<td>11- Rev. Kenneth D. Choiniere, pastor, and leaders of the Central SDB Church, MD</td>
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<td>12- Brother Owen Lynch and members of the SDB Church in Birmingham, England</td>
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<td>13- President and Pastor of the SDB Church in Columbus, OH</td>
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<td>14- Time is experiencing the rest and re-creation of God's Sabbath—Praise the Lord!</td>
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<td>15- The Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society Annual Meeting, 2:30 p.m., Westbury, RI</td>
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<td>16- Rev. David S. Clarke and all those who work with Helping Hand</td>
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<td>17- Pastor Benne and churches in Mozambique, Africa</td>
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<td>18- Decision toDiscipline group members of the SDB Church, Langley, BC, Canada</td>
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<td>19- Seventh Day Baptists in Auckland, New Zealand</td>
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<td>20- Women's Board in Los Angeles, CA, as it makes plans for SCSC in 1981</td>
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<tr>
<td>21- Missionary David and Betty Pearson, Malawi, Africa</td>
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<td>22- Churches searching for new pastors</td>
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<td>23- Pastors and Camille Henry and family, Cebu City, the Philippines</td>
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<td>24- Secretary Mary Clare and our Board of Christian Education</td>
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<td>25- The Seventh Day Baptist witness in Camaroon, West Africa</td>
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<td>26- Churches as they carry out their plans for the summer months</td>
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<tr>
<td>27- Rev. L. Sawi Thanga, general secretary, SDB Conference</td>
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<td>28- Ways in which the Sabbath can be different in.How many ways?</td>
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The Sabbath Recorder
His assigned duties were to see that the Stars and Stripes was not lost in the Western Pacific until 1955. During those years, he was employed extending his SFD experience to the成功 of the SDB in Western Pacific with the Los Angeles where he was assigned as an instructor in a training center.

In May of 1923 an opportunity to observe the hardships of the troops in Europe on the battlefields of France was seized by Mrs. Eullen, a woman with a heart for the suffering. She went to France and observed the conditions and decided to go to the front. She was at the front at the time of the Battle of Cantigny, the first American offensive action of World War I.

The Ordnance Department commanders at the Camp near Bourges did not like the idea of promoting a woman, so he was discharged in 1924.

In conclusion, I want to remind you of two things that we can do. First, each one of us is to give as He has prospered us. In this, there is a good starting place for poor Christians who are in need. Are you prepared to give more? Are you willing to sacrifice more of your wealth and possessions for the work and ministry of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ?

Thank you. May God bless you all. Amen.

MISSIONS TODAY

FEBRUARY 1981

PRAY FOR:

- 1-Missionaries Rodney and Camille Henry and family, Cebu City, The Philippines
- 2-Rev. Charles Graffius, Los Angeles, CA
- 3-Elmer C. Spruill, Jr., SDB President, as he travels to Burma
- 4-Joel O'Mara, one of the SDB leaders in the Kial, Kenvia, mission
- 5-My friends who do not know Christ and my witness to them
- 6-Lvs. S. Sawu Thangth, General Secretary of the Burma SDB Conference
- 7-Seventh Day Baptists around the world as they meet for worship and fellowship
- 8-The officers of the Women's Board of the SDB in Los Angeles, CA
- 9-The ministry of Dr. Sue Kim and the house churches in Korea
- 10-The many persons involved in preparing for Ministers Conference beginning Feb. 19
- 11-The Seventh Day Baptist witness in Cameroon, West Africa
- 12-The pastor and leaders of my church
- 13-Missionaries David and Bette Pearson, Malawi, Africa
- 14-SABBATH SCHOOL MISSION OFFERING—special emphasis in many churches
- 16-Year General Council as it meets in Dayton, Ohio, February 21-25
- 17-Missionaries Lida and Thora and the medical workers in Malawi, Africa
- 18-Missionaries David and Bette Pearson, Malawi, Africa
- 19-Missionary Carleene Saunders for the SDB in Brazil
- 20-Missionaries Rodney and Camille Henry, Cebu City, The Philippines
- 21-Missionary John Lawton on his recent visit.
- 22-G. O'Mara, Director of Student Work, SDB World Federation. He helps his country and the SDB in Australia
- 23-Leaders and speakers at Ministers Conference, Daytona Beach, FL
- 24-Missionaries Rodney and Camille Henry, Cebu City, The Philippines
- 25-Pastor Samuel Peters in the medical field in Guyana, South America
- 26-Missionaries David and Bette Pearson, Malawi, Africa
- 27-Missionaries David and Bette Pearson, Malawi, Africa
- 28-New possibilities for outreach and growth in Brazil
- 29-The youth in our church. How can I encourage them?
- 30-Male and female missionaries in the Eastern European church.
It may · show how the end of the world was destroyed by means of water, as once the world in Noah's day was destroyed by means of water. The warlike spirit must give way to the god of war, there is reported that when one bomb hit Hiroshima, and not all of which could be put out of commission an enemy's power could be put out of commission. Now when men give themselves over to the power of the Holy Spirit, to witness for Christ, many will miss Pastor Tom Osborne's leadership and faithfulness, as he has in the past. The church has been attracting an average of about 75. And in those first five weeks, at least three students have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord of their lives.

The coffeeshop has also been an avenue through which our church members meet students and some have been drawn into our regular fellow­ship activities of Sabbath School, worship and socials.

The church's discipleship cell continued meeting during the summer months to pursue camp and fair booth commitments. Beth Goodridge, Terry Jackson, Rich Osborne, Dave and Beverly Snyder and Amanda and Melissa Snyder and Craig Mix worked at the Allegany County Fair; Beverley (Mrs. Harold) Snyder, adult; Sandra Mc Graw, adult. The Friendly Forum continues to meet, also.

The church has begun having monthly church socials as an informal way of outreach and continued fellow­ship; and just plain fun. Thus far, we've had a pie social following a village band concert, a corn roast in the apple orchard of Bruce and Winnie Stubble and a 20-foot banana split! Yes, 20 foot! Each event has been well attended and enjoyed by all.

There has been renewed interest in Youth Fellowship, with Beth Goodridge and Rich Osborne recruiting youth while Roger and Penny Gardner and Bob Cartwright serve as advisors. The youth have numbered about 20 each Saturday night and recently took 37 area youth to the Kanona Youth for Christ Center, where three young people accepted the Lord!

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LITTLE GENESEE CHURCH REPORTS ACTIVE YEAR

LITTLE GENESEE, NY—Our first money raising event in 1980, was a pancake supper, April 14, to help defray the expenses that our Sabbath School children could attend Camp Harley in July.

Our annual bazaar/bingo party, April 28, attracted about 100 people, making it a real community get-together. The Rev. Albert Rogers, Alfred, NY, was our guest at the annual puppet exchange while Pastor Crouch went to Alfred.

Mrs. and Mr. Burdick and Mrs. Becky Crouch participated in the World Day of Prayer Service, at the Episcopal Church in Bolivar. Several other ladies from our church also attended.

Mr. and Mrs. John Reynolds were honored at a dinner reception in the Community Center, celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary, May 18. Over 100 people attended the affair, which was hosted by their three daughters and families.

Genesee Township had its Sesquicentennial celebration July 26-29. One of the highlights was a skit, "Coming to America," depicting early days in the SDB church. The membership of the church was invited to represent members attending a church meeting in 1827. Our church also held a special union church service, Sabbath morning. Visitors were present from several states.

Our pastor was director of Vacation Bible School here in Little Genesee the last week of June and director of the Camp at John Rau Sutton in July before going off to Denver for Conference and a week's vacation afterwards.

On October 3-4 our church helped the First Genesee SDB Church with the ordination services for our joint pastor, Steven Crouch. Dean Herbert Saunders of Council on Ministry, Rev. Myron Soper, Missionary evangelist, and Rev. and Mrs. John Rau of Brookfield, NY, were in attendance along with our sister churches of the Allegheny Association and Steve's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Crouch of Milton, W1. We were very proud of the Rev. John Rau and his family, and the Rev. Rau was a very thought-out statement. Our latest project, spearheaded by Mrs. Wilma Monroe, is an effort toward more involvement of our young people in the church and community. - Arilda Wamsteker and Wilma Sanford

ORDINATION OF STEVEN P. CROUCH

LITTLE GENESEE, NY—Pastor Steven P. Crouch was ordained in the Seventh Day Baptist Church on Sabbath Day, October 4, at the First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Hebron, Coudersport, Pennsylvania.

The call to ordination took place on Friday evening, October 3, was given by both the Hebron and Little Genesee, NY, churches which he has been serving the past year since his graduation from North American Baptist Seminary, Sioux Falls, SD.

The Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel, Alfred Station, NY, was elected moderator of the council of delegates from the NY, Alfred Station, NY, Richburg, NY, Little Genesee, NY, and Hebron, PA, churches. Visiting clergy also elected were the Rev. John A. Rau, Brookfield, NY, the Rev. Myron Soper, Texarkana, AR, and the Rev. Herbert E. Saunders, Dean of Seventh Day Baptist Ministry, Plainfield, NJ.

The Sabbath Day services consisted of a morning worship service and the observance of the Lord's Supper. The Rev. Soper brought the ordination sermon, "Preach the Word," and the Rev. Rau, the children's message, "Faith." A tureen dinner was served at noon followed by the ordination service at two o'clock. The Rev. David Clarke conducted the opening worship after which the Rev. John Rau gave the charge to the candidate, and the Rev. Rex Zwiebel, the charge to the church. The Rev. Saunders gave the prayer of consecration after which the Rev. Soper welcomed the candidate to the ministry. The Rev. Albert Rogers gave the closing benediction.

Special music, "The Was Wounded in the morn Stow worship service, and "Bless This Child" one of the ordination prayers, was performed by a mixed quartet from the Hebron church, William W. and Kathryn Thompson, Peace Brock, and Thompson, Peace Brock, accompanied at the organ by Mrs. Thomas (Margaret) Burdick of Little Genesee, NY.

-Linda Kenyon

ARKANSAS FAIR BOOTH

LITTLE ROCK, AR—The Seventh Day Baptist Church of Little Rock, a year ago this year at the Arkansas State Fair. The attractive prayer of praying hands with the Lord's Prayer by Winnie Monroe drew many to the booth and enabled us to share our witness. Our major emphasis was on the way of salvation and God's love. This is the third year that Mrs. Monroe has drawn posters for the fair booth. Many who had seen Mrs. Monroe's Ten Commandment poster at the booth last year came back and asked if we had any of them left over. Truly we are blessed to have such willing and talented hands to serve.

Dan Johnson again sponsored the Bibles for our fair booth drawings as well as many copies of the Gospel of John which were given out to those interested in that study. One of last year's Bible winners came by to thank us and brought her friends to sign up for the drawing this year. Over 3,000 tracts and posters were distributed by the participants in this year's outreach.

We have been advertising in local newspapers again this year as well as many other directories other than in the Arkansas cities. The Lord has continued to bless our worship services and provide opens doors for us to witness during each week.

It has been a blessing to have three nurses from the Baptist Hospi
tal attending our services: Jennifer Booth, a member of the London Seventh Day Baptist Church, Velma Virgin and Terri Newsum, who are members of the Wakefield, Jamaica, Seventh Day Baptist Church.

We are looking forward to new opportunities, challenges and blessings as the new year approaches.
FOUKE, AR—The Fouke Seventh Day Baptist Church has been active in recent months with an average attendance of about 40. The church voted to send money for support to foreign missions. A move to support Pastor Floyd L. Goodson and Rev. Victor G. Cooper on the radio for thirteen weeks was also approved. The program will begin after Thanksgiving.

The Fouke SDB Youth Center is beginning its eighth year. Juda, boxing, arts and crafts, church library, and a tutoring service are now being offered. A girls' gymnastics class and an aerobics class for women are now being considered to begin soon.

A move has begun to reopen the Fouke Academy. A charter from the State of Arkansas was applied for and granted. A church school could not begin in 1980 because of lack of funds. A teacher is available. Pastor Goodson has taught for over twenty-five years on all levels, first through university. At the present time he is teaching at Texarkana Community College. He is also teaching his course in graphic arts at a college near the University of Arizona.

In order to open the Academy for the 1980-81 year, a budget of $3,000, was needed, and a minimum of $20,000. The school would have to be subsidized for a period of five to nine years. After that, the school should be able to operate on its own. The academy would be operated on Christian principles and would prepare students in the academic, the physical, the social and the spiritual areas.

Pastor Goodson hopes that the Youth Center's tutoring service will lead into an interest in the academy. Two young ladies are participating in the service with an eye to enrolling at Texarkana Community College in January.

Kathy Campbell and Lynn Smith take advantage of the academy's afternoon tutoring service. Both young ladies plan to attend college in January, 1981.

PLAINFIELD HAS RETREAT

PLAINFIELD, NJ.—We are indeed happy to have Pastor and Mrs. Victor W. Skaggs with us. He was installed September 6 at an inspiring service conducted by Dean Herbert E. Saunders. There was a large attendance with visitors from New York City, Irvington, Raritan Valley, Shiloh, New York State, and Jamaica. Hospital Chaplain David Quiring and Rev. Edward Schneider took part in the service. We welcomed four new members—our pastor and his wife Ardale, their son Patrick and his wife Debbie, who live near enough to attend from time to time. Following a bountiful fellowship dinner which featured a large lettered cake, Pastor Skaggs spoke of his aspirations for our church. It was a thrilling day for our congregation.

At our quarterly meeting Janet Whiford, president of the Board of Trustees, reported many renovations to the parsonage and church. Among other things, the parsonage and garage had been painted, glass had been installed over the windows, and the church floors had been repaired and had been run again.

Our Spiritual Life Retreat October 17-18 was held in Plainfield instead than at the Baptist Conference Center in Lebanon and was a real success. On Sabbath Eve the Sabbath welcome service was at the Saunders home, while the rest of the retreat was at the church. The emphasis was on the Christian family. A very complete breakfast was served by the young people Sabbath morning at 8:00. Pastor Skaggs had prepared an in-depth study on the characteristics of a Christian family and the responsibilities of each member.

During the worship service K.D. and Shireen Hurley sang a duet and read from Proverbs. The message was on "Joy and Responsibility."
The pastor said, "Love, trust and trustworthiness are essential to a happy family. The fellowship dinner was followed by devotionals and singing, led by Douglas and Melody Wheeler. The Saunders family had charge of fun and fellowship at the dormitory, including Bible games, in the afternoon.

The mystery supper prepared by Kay Maltby and Ardola Skaggs was hilarious. The menu consisted of seventeen mysterious names, which each person divided into three courses. Some received their desert first and nothing to eat it with. This correspondent was fortunate to get a fork with the first course, "sloppy joe" with the second course, and giving up the third course, but most were not so lucky. The old movies shown after church were "Asterix and the Sun" and "Apollo 11" on the moon in 1969. Pastor Skaggs' messages have been overemphasized "Little Less Than God" stressed the relationship of Christians to one another. God builds people up, but we are apt to tear down people's confidence, often unconsciously. Sensitivity, respect, and appreciation is what we need to recognize the worth of others and help them to grow and mature in the Christian life.

-Ruth Hunting Parker

WOMEN'S SOCIETY ORGANIZED

FARINA, IL.—The women of the Farina Seventh Day Baptist Church organized a Ladies' Aid Society this past month. During the weekend session, Mary Clare, Executive Secretary of the Board of Christian Education led in a series of five sessions. Three of these sessions were open to all local women with two sessions held at helping SD Bat women with spiritual and spiritual growth. There were several goals established for the new Ladies' Aid Society First, a regular meeting time was set for the first Sabbath of each month following a noon luncheon. The women also decided to start by studying "What Happens When Christians Marry." The women decided to correspond with and encourage isolated Sabbath-keepers. The women are going to do research to see if there is a need for "Meals on Wheels" in Farina. During the summer months the church was happy to host a S.C.S.C. team. Victor Burdick and Othneil Murphy did a great job of developing community awareness of our church. The team started the painting of the church, with the help of theladies' committee. The Lord led many people to help with the cost of the painting. The church is happy to thank all who contributed to this fund.

We were happy that Wifli Klajbor received his diploma on July 26. We have started a "Decision to Disciple" class with three members.

-Pastor Robert Van Horn

The Sabbath Recorder

MARRIAGES

COOMBRICRUAN—John Howard Combs, son of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Combs, Jr. of Elmira, NJ, and Donna Ruth Cruzan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David A. Cruzan of Bridgeton, NJ, were married on September 5, 1980, in the Seventh Day Baptist Church on October 31, 1980.

SANDERS-GIFFORD—Gilbert Eiel Sanden, son of Mr. Martin P. Sanden and Mrs. Elaine Gifford, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Denver B. Gifford, were united in marriage at Sey PMC, Seventh Day Baptist Church on October 31, 1980. Rev. Paul Green officiated.

SWEENEY-SUTTON—Daniel H. Sweeney, son of Charles and Maurie Sweeney of Center Point, WV, and Terri Leapha Sutton, daughter of Reverend Edward and Brenda Sutton of Salem, WV, were united in marriage at the Seventh Day Baptist Church on September 5, 1980. Rev. Paul Green officiated.

ASSOCIATIONS

MEMPHIS, TN—William Sheffer, Pastor
By Baptism: Chris Kaffert
By Testimony: Jim Shackford
PAINT ROCK, AL
John D. Bevis, Pastor
By Testimony: Doris Catherine (Mrs. Wm. E.) Baer
WILLIAM E. BAER
SALEM, WV
J. Paul Cretz, Pastor
By Testimony: Thomas Goodson
Kris (Mrs. Thomas) Goodson
Rochelle Goodson

OBITUARIES

WAYNE N. CRANDALL—Deacon Wayne N., son of Milford and Esperanza Cran dall, was born on April 22, 1914 in the town of Assonet, New York, and died at Betheds Hospital, Hornell, New York, November 8, 1980. Mr. Cran dall was a graduate of Cornell University and served as a school adminis­ trator and teacher all of his life. His talents were used in Almond, Canton, and Arkport, New York. Upon retirement in 1970, he and his wife, Katherine, answered the call to go to Jamaica, West Indies, where he spent four years as principal of the Cran dall High School, a Seventh Day Baptist school, and also served as treasurer under his uncle, Dr. Benjamin Cran dall. He served as deacon in the Independence and Alfred Station, New York, Seventh Day Baptist Church. He was a member of the Arkport, New York, Exchange Club and of the Homestead Camp of the Gideons International where he served as treasurer during the time of his confinement. For many years he was a devoted member of the Board of Directors of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Christian Education and was the president for several terms. His denomination honored him by electing him Conference president for the year of 1959. Surviving are his wife, Katherine Cran dall; a daughter, E. Camille (Mrs. Joseph) Loring of South Burlington, Ver­ mont, three sons, Kenneth of Medway, Massachusetts, Kurtis of Kennesaw, New York, and Dale of Arkport, New York; a brother, Dr. Dewey, Jr. of Elmer, NJ, and a grand­ daughter. Farewell services were held in the Bethnd Baptist Church in Hornell, New York, with his pastor, the Reverend E. Zruel, celebrant. Interment was in the Alfred Rural Cemetery, New York.

D.RAPER—Fred, was born March 1, 1900, in Malvern, AR, and died Sept. 12, 1980, at Richmond, CA.

HOLOWS DE LUSLEY—Gregory Elliot Holloway, son of Rev. and Mrs. Lee Holloway, of Canaan, and Juanita Delaurey, was united in marriage in Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church on September 11, 1980, in the Shiloh Seventh Day Baptist Church. The father is the pastor of the church. The couple resides in the Philadelphia area where the pastor is chairman of the Bay Area, CA, Board of Directors.

OBTAIN

MEMPHIS, TN—William Sheffer, Pastor
By Baptism: Chris Kaffert
By Testimony: Jim Shackford
PAINT ROCK, AL
John D. Bevis, Pastor
By Testimony: Doris Catherine (Mrs. Wm. E.) Baer
WILLIAM E. BAER
SALEM, WV
J. Paul Cretz, Pastor
By Testimony: Thomas Goodson
Kris (Mrs. Thomas) Goodson
Rochelle Goodson

BIRTHS

BARNES.—A daughter, Kristin Diane Barnes, to Rev. and Mrs. William Barnes, on July 16, 1980, at Valhalla Hospital, and parents Gordon and Joan (Stone) House, all of Fort Lauderdale, FL, and formerly of Cortland, NY.

CRANDALL.—A son, Philip David Cran dall, to Stephen and Patricia (Montgomery) Cran dall of Alfred, NY, on November 13, 1980.

LANDERS.—A son, Dewey Lee III, to David and Mary Landers of Pasc­ ale, Mississippi, on November 13, 1980.

LAWTON.—A son, Nathaniel James, to Rev. and Mrs. Charles D. Lawton (Ashaway, RI), on October 29, 1980.

MATTHEWS.—A daughter, Lisa Marie, to Dr. and Mrs. Donald (Cynthia) Man­ thurns of Springfield, VA, on October 21, 1980.

MONROE.—A son, Joshua Nathan, to Jeff and Nancy D. Monroe of North Little Rock, AR, on September 13, 1980.

VAN HORN.—A daughter, Marissa Lee, to Robert and Lola Van Horn of Farina, IL, on August 13, 1980.

GENERAL CONFERENCE

DATE CHANGED

August 2-6, 1981
Salem, West Virginia
spend our time thinking about these basic things, what shall we spend our time and effort on? Well, the writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews had heard the teachings of Jesus repeated; he knew that these things were essential to Christian faith and life. He knew also that they were only the first less evident truths.

We give ourselves to joy in our salvation. It is wonderful we talk about in our Christian witness, we are dealing with the initial stages of our faith only then we have not understood the message of the Bible. More than two-thirds of the New Testament is the religionist cannot abide. This is where we so often stop. We underestimate its powers and its values. We contribute to lethargy in the church, for we are infant cannot bear. This is the food that the superficial.

We must ask ourselves: What is the purpose of this message of the Bible? The Bible is the Word of God to win others to Him and to help them find the gift of salvation. This is our purpose. But as long as we turn aside from those we call "gross sinners," as long as we approach others with our "righteousness" and their "wrongness," as long as we consciously or unconsciously, put others down, as long as we insist on our decisions, not only for ourselves, but also for them, as long as we will not move beyond the primary and basic steps of faith nor let others near us move either—then, just so long will our efforts be frustrated, and just so long will we do violence to the human personalities which are all around us. Just so long will we be unfruitful servants to the Lord Jesus Christ.

"Lord, what is man that thou are mindful of him, and the son of man that thou dost care for him? Yet thou hast made him little less than God...."

Do you look at your neighbor and see a person only a little less than God? Do you look at those of whom you disapprove and see persons only a little less than God? Do you see each person's worth even when you detest what he does? Can you see in yourself and in others around you the development of the image of Christ? You are only a LITTLE less than God. He made you that way. He made me that way. He made every me that way. However, if one of us has married his creation by sin, that worth remains, the capabilities are there; and they must be treated with respect and with awe and with wonder and with joy, if we are to give other persons the chance for growth and maturity under God in Jesus Christ which God has prepared for each one.

"Remembering the Acts of God"

and few Seventh Day Baptists "super churches", with pastors so sensitive that they can devise significant stocks of these time to study and writing, becomes of the utmost importance that the Historical Society perform the function in the Seventh Day Baptist. Articles in magazines, encyclopedias and directories are written. Special addresses are presented on historically significant occasions. And a graduate credit course in Seventh Day Baptist history is offered to our ministers students.

With activities such as these, and with a foundation consisting of acquisition, preservation and organization, and reference, the Historical Society attempts to fulfill its mission of somewhere, and telling of the wonderful things God has done among Seventh Day Baptists.

 won't you support us in this vital activity?

"Listen, my people, to my teaching, and pay attention to what I say: I am going to use wise sayings and explain mysteries from the past, things we have heard and known things that our fathers told us."

The Sabbath Recorder

January 1981

I used to be in a two way pass. I used to be a Christian and I loved the world. Well, I went to camp and I had a talk with Randy. Well, he told me you got to be a 100% Christian. Well, I did become a real Christian. If you're like me, think what you want to be. You have to be 100% something.

Faith Camenga, from the Upper East Tennessee Church, gave us the words to her favorite song. Faith is 8 years old.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Seven is the day That we lay aside our work To worship God and pray. Daily cares to be forgotten on the Sabbath Day. We sing praises to God on this the Sabbath Day.

Here are some new words to a tune you probably know. The tune was written by Aaron Williams in the 18th century. The name of the tune is St. Thomas, and you know it as "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord," or "Come, We That Love the Lord."

I like to go to church; I like to sing and pray. But most of all I like to Worship God on Sabbath Day.

-Linda Harris
HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM YOUR WOMEN’S BOARD

Jane Mackintosh

"We love because
God first loved us."  
1 John 4:19

The new year is upon us and it is time for churches to be submitting project plans for their Summer Christian Service Corps workers. It is also time for our young people who will have at least finished their junior year of high school by June to submit their applications for serving this summer. It is urgent that these plans and applications be submitted immediately so that the SCSC committee can have adequate time to plan for the 1981 Summer Christian Service Corps program.

SCSC is one of the most important aspects of the work of the Women’s Board. I have very little personal knowledge of this program except for my observations of the young people who have returned from their summer of SCSC. They come back with a new spiritual maturity, ready to work in their own churches.

I asked Joni Burdick, one of last summer’s SCSC’ers to write about the SCSC experience. She writes:

SCSC is a great opportunity to serve the Lord. It’s a summer filled with fun, excitement, growth and learning. It offers chances to grow spiritually, get to know and work with people, go places, and do many new and different things.

There is a training for ten days at the beginning of the summer. This prepares the workers for the summer ahead. Classes taught in the past have discussed the Holy Spirit, feeling versus will, prayer, God’s love, witnessing, vacation, counseling camps, doing crafts and teaching VBS (Bible School). Training is also a great time for fellowship, love and encouragement from the other workers and the staff.

The projects last for five to six weeks. This offers the chance to "go out into the world" and practice what’s been learned at training. One learns many lessons and goes through some difficult situations, which God uses to develop inner character and Christlikeness. One also learns much about communication. Working with people different lessons, but there are some important things learned in past years which have helped the workers greatly. One is that love is a decision not a feeling. Therefore, if one does not "feel" loving toward a certain person, he can "decide" to love this person anyway with God’s love. A favorite SCSC song is "I love you with the Love of the Lord." God’s love is perfect and abundant. We can love anyone with God’s love.

Another important point is that "feelings are neither right nor wrong, they just are." The feelings we have aren’t wrong until we act upon them. Jesus said, "Be angry and sin not." We shouldn’t suppress our feelings, or let them out in a harmful way, but we should learn to control our feelings and express them calmly and rationally.

Another third thing about SCSC is that it is a chance to serve the Lord and He honors this. Proverbs 3:6 says, "In everything you do put God first and He will crown your efforts with success." If we will only honor and serve Him then He will give us success in the things we do.

SCSC helps a person learn more about God, depend on Him more, have a better self-esteem, build character, learn valuable lessons, and most importantly, to grow closer to the Lord.

Joni Burdick

Mail project plans and worker applications to:

SCSC COMMITTEE  
c/o Los Angeles SDB Church  
4976 N. Figueroa St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90042

The Sabbath Recorder

Promises yourself:

To be so strong nothing can disturb your peace of mind;
To talk health, happiness and prosperity;
To make your friends feel that there is something in them;
To look on the sunny side of everything;
To think only of the best;
To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own;
To forget the mistakes of the past and profit by them;
To wear a cheerful countenance and give a smile to everyone you meet;
To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear.
To love your enemy.

And too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

March 1981
you and me and God

God is alive!
Can't you feel Him?
Can't you hear Him?
Can't you see Him?
He's out in that big world with you!
Watching! Caring! Loving!
He's taking care of you,
Cause He knows you need Him.
He's being alive for us.
He loves us so much.
He hurts when we hurt.
He cries with us.
He laughs when we laugh.
He rejoices with us.
He never tires of being with us.
Let me take your hand.
Let's find Him together.
you and me and God.
We can mount up with wings as eagles.
We can move mountains.
We can heal the sick and mend the broken.
Together we can overcome the world with God's love.
you and me and God.
Together we can love the people.
you and me and God.
But only if we can say...

AND GOD...
you and me and God

God is alive!
Can't you feel him?
Can't you hear him?
Can't you see him?
He's out in that big world with you!
Watching! Caring! Loving!
He takes care of you.
Cause he knows you need him.
He's being alive for us.
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And God!