



The Mission Trail

GUTHRIE, OKLAHOMA

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

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. . . Greeting once again to all who are in tune with radio station XEG. This is THE MISSION TRAIL Broadcast of Guthrie, Oklahoma with your speaker Willie Murphey. We are glad to be back with you as we are each Friday night at 11:00.

For the message at this time, I have chosen a real missionary challenge which was given to the apostle Paul, and I would like for you to notice the way in which he responded. Then I think we would do well for us to ask ourselves: "Am I doing my best for the cause of Christ in helping to spread the gospel?"

Here then is the challenge. I quote from the scripture: "And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying,

COME OVER INTO MACEDONIA, AND HELP US.

and after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them." Acts 16:10.

Now just as the apostle felt a solemn obligation to preach the gospel to the "regions beyond", and to those who had not heard before, even so I believe that God's church or people should realize this obligation and debt, both toward God and toward those who are still in darkness. The scriptures teach us that Christ came "to seek and to save that which was lost". Luke 19:10

I wonder if there are not more young people who will hear the call to "come over and help us." The need for consecrated workers are increasing more and more.

A little more than one year ago now, Bro. David Madden felt this call of God to go to Nigeria and help those who were hungry for the truth.

Now Nigeria is said to be the "giant of Africa". It is greater in population than any

other African country. Nigeria is also said to be "the white man's burying ground". This is true because of the tropical diseases which are so prevalent.

But Bro. David Madden gave heed to this call and upon arriving in Nigeria soon found himself surrounded by eager natives asking many questions concerning the truth as taught by the Word of God. Because of other obligations, his stay in Nigeria was short.

But by the time he was ready to return to the states, he left those in Nigeria whose appetites for the truth were far from satisfied. They had only begun to taste of the bountiful supply of refreshing truths of the Word which you and I have the privilege to enjoy so often.

Bro. David was home only a few days until God saw best to call him to his eternal reward, but he had served well to implant in the hearts of those he left behind in Nigeria a deep respect for him and his God.

It is also reported that his name was held with such esteem and respect that he was spoken

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of with great reverence.



Shown here is Bro. David Madden (left) who went on his missionary journey to Nigeria in 1964. With him is pictured Bro. and Sis. Sam Barton of Tulsa, Okla.

But let us go on with this report. The hearts of these natives were made happy when they learned that Bro. and Sister Ostis Wilson had heard the call to "come over and help us."

Many of you know that Bro. and Sister Wilson were in Nigeria only a few weeks until once again our hearts were made sad, and we were made to ask ourselves this question: "Why did God see best to call Sister Opal home to her rest from such a needy field?"

But, wait, Bro. Ostis can tell this better than I, for he was there. Listen to his words as he spoke to the saints at the National Campmeeting this summer.

Bro. Wilson: "My wife, I mentioned that she had the heart of a missionary, her heart was there all the while, and she loved her work, and she loved those people, and they loved her. My wife was very happy when she finally got the privilege to go and serve for a little while in a mission field. God didn't see fit to let her serve very long, but she was happy while she was there.

"And there was something unusual about this trip. Mom and I never did make many trips together, as you know. She was the pastor of our congregation, and she stayed faithfully by her post. We did, however, make a few trips along at times, but by the time we would get where we were going, Opal was talking about when we were going back and anxious to get home. This time it was different. I never heard her mention one word about going home from the time we left clear on through. She never said a word about going home. She was just earnestly hoping that she could get an extension on our visas to stay longer."

In speaking of their work while in Nigeria and of some of the disappointments they met, Bro. Wilson went on to tell how eager the natives were to learn.

Bro. Wilson: "They were anxious to be able to read at least enough that they could read the Bible in their Efik language. So some language classes were started, adult classes to teach the adults to read until they could read the Bible in their native tongue. Then my wife started some sewing classes which, under her supervision, were very profitable. It gave her close contact with all the women folks, and she carried a spiritual strain all the way through, teaching them about the Lord while she was teaching them to sew."

But, friends, here is the thing which is so heart-rending. Listen now as Bro. Wilson went on to say:

Bro. Wilson: "When things turned out as they did, those people were a bewildered group of people. They just about folded up. They said, 'David came over here and went back, and in a few days he died. Now you folks came over and your wife dies right here among us. No one will ever venture to come to help us any more.'

"They just about lost hope. They just about folded up, and all the women, Opal when she started teaching them to sew, she just cut

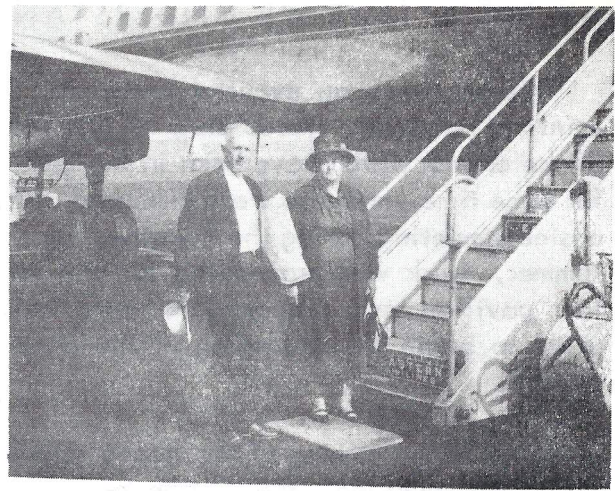
up small pieces of cloth about so big a square and she was teaching them to make simple stitches and hems and so on, on that little piece of cloth. After she had gone, those women came to Brother Etuk, and they held up the little pieces of cloth. You know, like the people did with Dorcus in the Bible, they were holding up the things that Dorcus had given them. These people came and held up their little pieces of cloth and said, 'Is this the end? Is this all we have? Is there going to be no more?'



Bro. Ostis and Sister Opal Wilson are shown here in a pleasant pose. Their trip to Nigeria was made in 1964.

Friends, I'll confess this looks like a rather dark picture, but remember the text which says: "Come over into Macedonia and help us."

I am happy to report that once again this call has been heard and early this month Bro. and Sister C. C. Carver of Shreveport, Louisiana left for this mission field in Nigeria. As you hear this broadcast they should be there now administering the Word of God. Will you each one remember them daily in prayer?



Bro. and Sis. C. C. Carver are pictured here shortly before boarding the plane to begin their missionary trip.

Let us spend a moment just now as we think of the great need there.

Our Father,

Remember those who have waited so long for the light of thy word. We pray that you would give special wisdom and strength to those who administer in thy service. Bless Bro. and Sister Carver in Nigeria and all the missionaries throughout thy great harvest in Christ's name we ask it. Amen

Now, I want to tell you that we have been adding more and more names to our list of those who receive printed copies of this weekly broadcast. This week there will be pictures of some of these missionaries. Be sure to write for your free copy. That address is THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Oklahoma.

Here now is a song by Lynn Carver, Arnett Carver, Manuel Mitchell and Troy Gentry. "Glad Reunion Day"

The song with comments.

This message has been brought to you by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. If you have enjoyed the message, we would be pleased to hear from you. Until next Friday night at 11:00 this is Willie Murphey saying: May God's richest blessings be yours and a very pleasant goodnight!

AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND THAT:

This has been an eventful week for the saints at Guthrie. According to the plans of the church which have been in the making for some time, and also were discussed at the business meeting during the campmeeting this summer, work was proceeding to dismantle the pavilion and preparations were being made to begin the enlarging of the present chapel.

But with the coming of the heavy rainfall which we received, the Cottonwood Creek once again made its presence known and felt. The water flooded many blocks in the lowlands of this section in town. Flood stage was reached Tuesday morning, September 21st, and was at the level for flooding approximately 24 hours. During this time, many of the residents were driven from their homes, but fortunately, so far, we have no reports of loss of life. The creek was back within its banks Wednesday afternoon.

However, flood waters stood approximately 22 inches above the floor level of the chapel. And it is hard for one to realize what a muddy, sloppy task it is to clean up the buildings after this water has settled, unless they have taken part in helping to see this done, but this clean-up job is being done, and it is expected that services will be held in the chapel again on Sunday as usual.

The latest word which we have in regard to Brother and Sister Carver is that they did arrive safely in Port Harcourt, Nigeria, so by now, they are, no doubt, busy with their missionary activities.

We had hoped to carry a few statements in this issue which Brother Carver made at the national campmeeting this summer, but this tape seems to have been used for some other purpose and was not available.

However, perhaps you would enjoy the postcard which we received from them while in route which follows:

"Jerusalem, Jordan, September 11, 1965. Dear Ones, We are walking in a dream. Yesterday we saw Golgotha's Hill with the Skull formation on the side; stepped into the tomb where it is possible our Lord was laid and wept at His sacrifice for us. Saw Gethsemane with its 2500 year old Olive trees still bearing and were given some of the olives. Saw Pool of Siloam, drank clear, cool water from Jacob's well; saw Jordan River. Cecil pulled off shoes and stepped into it. Saw Mount Zion, Mount of Olives, Bethlehem, Hebron and burying ground of Jacob.

We expect to leave Tuesday for Amsterdam and Nigeria after that.

Love, Cecil and May Carver"

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