



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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. . . A very pleasant greeting once again to all of the listeners of radio station XEG. This is THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast of Guthrie, Oklahoma, and this is Willie Murphey speaking to you. We are indeed happy to be back with you once again as we are on this station each Friday night at 11:00. We also want to tell you that we have been made very happy in recent weeks by the response which we have gotten from those who receive the message. To those who have helped to keep us on the air, we say a very hearty "thank you" and pray that God's richest blessings may be yours.

Now, for our scripture lesson at this time, please take a look at this verse in Song of Solomon, chapter two and verse fifteen. I quote: "Take us the foxes,

THE LITTLE FOXES, THAT SPOIL THE VINES:

for our vines have tender grapes." Now, I am not sure that all of you will remember reading this scripture in the Bible, but I will assure you that this is a direct quotation from the scriptures, so our principal thought for this discussion will be, "the little foxes, that spoil the vines."

First, let us look at this thought in the natural before we compare it with the spiritual. Say, for example, it was your desire to plant a vineyard. First you would cultivate the soil and prepare it for the planting. This being done, you would then go to the nursery and pick out some sturdy, hearty, vines of a very choice type of grapes.

Then you would carefully space these vines in your garden and place them in the soil, being careful to water them and give them a good start to grow. Now imagine the pleasure that you would receive each morning to walk into your garden and see the tender leaves being put forth by these new planted vines each morning while they were still wet with the dew. Thus you would feel that they were growing very nicely and were well on

the way to the day when you would begin picking the juicy, luscious grapes, filled with the flavor which only the handiwork of God can produce.

But wait, think of the disappointment you would receive if you walked into your garden some morning and found there that the leaves were withered away on your lovely grapevines. Not much outward show would be in evidence as to what caused the plants to die, but as you carefully examined the stems down below the base or rather at the base of the vines, there you would find that the bark had been chewed from the plant. Then you, no doubt, would ask the question, "What destructive animals have been slipping into my garden at night and destroying my vines?"

Or you might ask yourself a question like this: "Could it be a giraffe or an elephant ate the bark from my vines?" But immediately you would come to the conclusion that this was not true, for if it had been an animal such as this or a horse or a cow, they would have destroyed the vine rather than a small portion of the bark.

Then you would begin thinking of some smaller animal which did the destruction and ruined your vines. Finally you would arrive at the conclusion that a small creature such as the fox did this destructive gnawing. Or these little foxes may have chewed the tender cluster of grapes and destroyed them before they came to maturity.

But at any rate, whether the enemy was large or small, the grapes were destroyed. Therefore, the fact remains that even as this is true in the natural, much more so is this true in the spiritual. So many times it is not the big problems of life which causes one to go down in defeat, but it is the simple, small daily temptations which cause a life of service to God to be destroyed and never come to maturity or bring forth any fruit.

Now in speaking of the small things which cause trouble, let me tell you of a little experience we had not long ago while on a trip and traveling in the state of Arkansas. My good wife, Frances, had made the comment just previous to this little mishap as we traveled along the road as she said, "I feel real good about the trip because I believe they are praying for us." This she spoke in reference to those whom we soon hoped to see as they waited for our coming.

And certainly it was a good thing that someone was praying for us. For as we neared the top of a winding hill, the car suddenly made such a noise as if the transmission had fallen out. I pulled it over to the side of the road and soon came to a stop. We thought surely that it would require a wrecker to pull us into town for repairs either before us or the nearest town behind us. The motor was still in good running condition, the tires still had air in them, and, in fact, after much investigation and some delay, we found that the transmission was still in good working condition, but, friends, would you like to know what happened?

It was not a piston thrown through the motor; it was not a gear from which the cogs

had been stripped in the transmission. All of these remained in good condition, but let me tell you what happened. One small nut had loosened itself and fallen to the ground, allowing the transmission to thus drop out of alignment and causing the entire car to come to a stop.

Fortunately for us, through the courtesy of those big-hearted natives of Arkansas and their helpfulness, the highway behind us was searched for this missing nut. And even though as unlikely as it seems that such a small item should be found by the roadside, it was found. With a little ingenuity and the replacing of this missing nut, the car was soon back into operation and our little family proceeded on our way without the assistance of a wrecker to pull us to town.

Now I say this in order to bring out the spiritual value of the small things of life. It may not be the big problems which will cause one to lose his soul, but if you are not careful, you will find that it is the little foxes that spoil the vines. We should not concern ourselves needlessly with the big problems which lie ahead of us, but we should concern ourselves daily with the small tasks which come to meet us day by day.

You will find that it takes courage to face these small seemingly insignificant daily problems which come to try your patience, but I am happy to report to you that God has grace to help each one of us successfully overcome all the trials of life.

Now listen to this poem entitled

"UNFORGOTTEN COURAGE"

by Russell H. Douglas

The poem--Columbus, I never quite forgot.
This one verse to me, always meant a lot.
Many times when my hope was almost gone,
I remembered these words, 'Sail on and on'.

They sailed until the blanched mate said,
'Why now, not even God would know,

Should I and all my men fall dead."
 "Now speak, brave Admiral, speak and say."
 He said, "Sail on, sail on and on."

Today I wonder what he was thinking,
 When he bravely said, "Sail on."
 I know from duty he was not shrinking.
 Surely his faith had not gone.

He had to have his faith in God,
 When all was dark and he alone
 Had courage to say against such odds:
 I say, "Sail on, sail on and on."

Today when odds against us pile,
 And hope it seems is almost gone;
 With faith look up to God and smile
 And say these words, "Sail on and on".

Let us spend a moment in prayer.

Our Father,

Take the words of the message today and
 may they be a blessing to some precious heart
 who is bravely fighting the battles of life.
 Bless each one who is tuned to this broadcast,
 and may they find the courage and the strength
 which they need for we ask it in the name of
 Christ our Saviour. Amen

Here now is Kathleen with a poem for your
 encouragement.

OTHER PEOPLE'S TROUBLES

by Luther A. Merker

Strange how other people's troubles
 Never bother us a bit.
 They just seem like empty bubbles,
 While our own distracts our wit.

All their worry seems unfounded,
 When our lot we check with theirs,
 Their enjoyment seems unbounded,
 While we have both grief and cares.

But today I had suggestion
 From some friends, their woes to trade,
 I then saw without a question,
 They have troubles ready made.

So ease up on all your grumbles,
 Wear a smile and do not moan,
 For the other fellow's troubles
 Are far greater than your own.

Thank you, Kathleen, for the poem. Now
 here is a song by Manuel and Marie Mitchell,
 Sherlene Mitchell, and Cynthia LaCroix, en-
 titled "Unworthy".

The song.

This message has been brought to you by
 THE MISSION TRAIL of Gurhrie, Oklahoma.
 If you would like to have a printed copy of
 today's message, you may have one free of
 charge upon your request. Until next Friday
 night at 11:00, this is Willie Murphey saying
 may God bless you richly and a very pleasant
 goodnight!

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YOUNG PEOPLE'S SECTION

by Kathleen and Patsy

Since we realize that the young people
 are a very important part of the Church, we
 would like to encourage others to write their
 testimonies to be printed.

"Dear Bro. Murphey, . . . In prayer meeting
 tonight we sang the song "Have We Done
 What We Could" . . . Surely the fields are
 white . . . I do wish to help in some way.

I appreciate your interest in the young
 people. I am sure this would be a source of
 encouragement to each young Christian--to
 read and hear of the experiences of others in
 The Mission Trail. Yours in Christ,"

--Earl Watson

"Dear workers of The Mission Trail: Just a
 note to let you know how especially inspiring
 the typewritten message of September 24 was
 to me. It was a real challenge to each one
 who read it, I am sure, as it was to me. And
 I really enjoyed the pictures in it. I hope
 that much good will come from each one of
 your efforts put forth in this weekly paper as
 I know it is a real sacrifice in different ways.
 Sincerely,"

--Roberta Melot

AT PRESS TIME WE UNDERSTAND THAT:

We were privileged to have Brother and Sister Darius Gibson, also Brother and Sister Robert Benson and family in our home this week. Brother and Sister Darius Gibson were present here in the chapel at Guthrie for services on Sunday. They have been doing much work for the Lord in many isolated places.

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This past week Brother Sammons of the Dayton, Ohio congregation held services for the saints in Loranger, Louisiana. The attendance was very good. The messages were anointed by the Lord.

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Brother and Sister Ray Key are now living near Senath, Missouri.

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Brother and Sister C. C. Carver are scheduled to leave Nigeria on October 15. On their way home they plan to stopover in Paris, France, and Switzerland. Be sure to hear the broadcast on October 22 for recordings of some of the services which were held in Nigeria, Africa.

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Last Saturday Brother Harland Smith told us that the Lord is blessing the work in Mexico. Just recently there were four saved in El Alamo where Brother Tomas Mendoza is taking care of the congregation. Do remember this part of the Lord's work in your prayers.

The Mission Trail

GUTHRIE, OKLA. 73044

Return Requested

"Behold, now is the accepted time;" II Corinthians 6:2.

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DON'T TELL ME!

Don't tell me what you will do
When you have time to spare;
Tell me what you did today
To ease a load of care.

Don't tell me what you will give
When your ship comes in from sea;
Tell me what you gave today
A fettered soul to free.

Don't tell me the dreams you have
Of conquests still afar;
Don't say what you hope to be
But tell me what you are!

--Grenville Keiser

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We ask an interest in your prayers for THE MISSION TRAIL. We desire that all be done to the glory of the Lord to encourage all of God's children to press on and to present the ways of the Lord to all who do not know it. We send out printed copies of this message each week to all who desire to have them to read in their homes. If you would like a copy, send us your address. Please include the zip code number. There is no obligation on your part.

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