



The Mission Trail

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Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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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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We Are Ambassadors for Christ

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The Great Commission

"Go preach my gospel," saith the Lord;
"Bid the whole earth my grace receive;
He shall be saved who trusts my word;
He shall be damned who won't believe.

"I'll make your great commission known;
And ye shall prove my gospel true,
By all the works that I have done,
By all the wonders ye shall do.

"Teach all the nations my commands;
I'm with you till the world shall end:
All power is trusted in my hands;
I can destroy, and I defend."

He spake--and light shone round his
head;
On a bright cloud to heaven he rode;
They to the farthest nations spread
The grace of their ascended God.

--Isaac Watts

Friends, I have in my possession a small song book, and yet it is different from what you would think as being a song book, and perhaps I should not exactly call it small. For before some of the pages were torn from this book after years of use, it contained at least 700 pages. That would not be so small after all, would it, for a song book? But it is small in size. You could put it in your hip pocket without any trouble, but there is another unique thing about this song book. There is no music

written in it. It just contains the songs in poetry form. Some of the leaves are yellow with age, and, in fact, the book has been rebound some years ago.

For you see, in the back of the book is written in my father's own handwriting his name--Jasper Murphey, Jena, Louisiana. Then in the front of the book is written my grandfather's name, Jesse Murphey, Bienville, Louisiana. You could see why I would cherish this--not because of its value in dollars and cents, but for the spiritual and sentimental values which we cherish. I remember as a boy how my father and I would sing the gospel songs together. One of our favorite songs was this one in here about the wayworn traveler. It tells about the faithful pilgrim who was struggling up the mountain in tattered garments. His goal was to win the race of life and to gain the eternal prize at his journey's end. The poem which I gave you a few moments ago was written by Isaac Watts. It is found in this book also.

But, friends, I am not here to sell you any books, and even though we cherish the things of our parents, I want to tell you of something which I cherish more than all the earthly ties which we have ever had.

Let me give you my text. It is found in II Corinthians, the 5th chapter and

verse 20. Here it is. It says, "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." I am thinking how that each of us must be an ambassador for Christ if we are ever to accomplish the great commission which he left for his people.

But first let me give you the definition of an ambassador. "A person sent to a foreign country as the chief official representative of his own government or ruler." I would say then that an ambassador is the spokesman for his own country while he lives in a foreign land, and isn't that true with those who are the Lord's people?

When Jesus was praying for his disciples, he mentioned the fact that they were in the world but not of the world. Now, really, the Lord's people live in this world just like other people do. They have to have food to eat, water to drink, clothes to wear just like others. But here is where the difference is. Their affections are upon eternal things and not upon the things on the earth. Isn't that what the scriptures tell us? Let me read it to you here beginning with the 1st verse of the 3rd chapter of Colossians. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God."

Now all the while an ambassador is in a foreign land, he should bear in mind that he is there on business. He is there to represent his country. He is there to speak for his country. In fact, authority has been delegated to him, and he is the spokesman. Often

times the people in other countries judge the United States by the ambassador which is sent to their country.

Now did you know that the church has the commission to spread the gospel? And the ministers in particular are given authority and power to speak for Christ.

Notice again the first part of this verse I read to you a moment ago. "We pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." You see, Jesus finished his work and ascended to the father, but into the hands of the disciples and those who should believe on his name through their word, he has given power and authority.

And in speaking of authority, I am reminded of the time when Hezekiah was sick unto death. The Lord spoke to one of his ambassadors. In this case it was the prophet Isaiah. Here is the message which Isaiah brought to Hezekiah. I quote, "Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live." Now I know that must have been disappointing for Hezekiah, but Isaiah was speaking with authority, so Hezekiah realized that he was face to face with his maker.

Do you know what he did? He did just what every other person ought to do when they come to an unsurmountable obstacle. He began to pray. He reminded the Lord how he had lived before him, and I think that Hezekiah must have been living so that he was not ashamed of it.

Isaiah perhaps thought he was through now with the message which the Lord had sent him to deliver. But before he got out of the court that day, the word of the Lord came to him again.

God spoke, and he spoke with authority, and he told him to go back to Hezekiah. This is what Isaiah told him the second time. "Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the Lord. And I will add unto thy days fifteen years." I believe that must have made Hezekiah happy, don't you? Especially when he realized that Isaiah was speaking with authority.

Friends, there are many many other instances of which I could tell you how God's people spoke with authority as ambassadors of him. Time does not permit us to go into all of these, but don't forget the thought of the lesson today. Here it is again, "We are ambassadors for Christ".

Let me ask you frankly, what type of a representative for Christ are you? When others look upon your words, your actions, your manner of dress, can they say of a truth that you are a real ambassador for Christ? What is your motive in life? Is it to represent him to a lost and dying world, or is it to accumulate the riches of this life with no hope of life hereafter? Let us pray.

Our Father,

Qualify and prepare us to be real ambassadors and good witnesses of the gospel. May the word spoken today awaken that soul who may be careless and cause them to realize that they are not their own, but they are bought with a price and should therefore glorify God. All this we ask in Jesus' name. Amen

Now I want to tell you that this message has been brought your way today

by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. This is Willie Murphey speaking. Our work is a work of faith, and we trust God to move upon the hearts of those who hear the broadcast and of those who read the printed copies each week to help us keep the word going forth to those who are hungry for the truth. We are not here to sell the gospel. We have freely received from God, and we want to freely pass it on to others. If you would like a printed copy of today's message, we would be glad to send you one upon your request.

Now let me leave with you:

A THOUGHT FOR THE WEARY

For though I've the feet of Martha
And her weary toil-worn hands,
My heart is the heart of Mary,
And Jesus understands.

For while my hands are busy
In this sad old world of strife,
My mind and heart are with Jesus
And I love His words of life.

And at last in the great hereafter,
When the mists have rolled away,
I shall sing the songs of the blessed
Through that bright eternal day.

--Olive McFarling

Here now is a song, "Precious Name". The singers are Lynn and Arnett Carver, Troy Gentry and Edgar Martens.

Be with us again next Sunday at this same time on this same station for another broadcast of The Mission Trail. Until then this is Willie Murphey saying may God's richest blessings be with each of you and a very cheerful good-bye!

Time Is Running Out

"Whatever the will of the Lord is for me, that's what I want to do--ready to do as He says because time is running out. We are in the 11th hour, I believe, and we can see the doors gradually being shut. Then I wonder, will there be a time that no one will get saved. . . The time the animals were going into the ark, there was a space of time before God closed the door of the ark. While the animals were going into the ark, people were busy going their way, and I wonder will there be a time that the doors of the gospel will be closed--yet there will be a space of time when souls won't heed the gospel, just the saints. Then Christ will appear. . . . I don't believe the doors are shut on the gospel--not yet. . . We are looking for the Lord to bless you in your efforts for God."

--Steve and Margaret Cable

Testimonies

From Oregon: "Dear Bro. and Sister in Christ Jesus, Sister King at the Church of God at Jefferson where I am also a sister is giving me her Mission Trail folders. I would like to have them sent to me. I am saved and sanctified and living for the Lord and depending on him for healing of our bodies and all, praise his dear name!"

--Sister Helen Haven

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From Arkansas: "Dear Christian Friends, Greetings with love this beautiful day. The Lord is able to make all grace abound to us. I am persuaded He is able to keep that which I have committed unto Him against that day. I do love the Lord today. He has been so near to me. I do thank Him for it. I feel safe when He is near. . ."

--Lou Bray

From Mexico: ". . . I have had some hard problems, but thank the Lord that He has given me patience and grace until I gained the victory. . ."

--Ramona Esquer Villa

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From Oklahoma: "Dear Bro. and Sister Willie Murphey and family, Today finds me saved and encouraged to go on. Surely there is no rest and peace for the human soul only in Christ. Here is a small donation to help buy stamps. If the Lord's will, will do better soon. With much love,"

--Mary Anna Brown

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From Nebraska: "Dear Sister and Brother Murphey, How happy this makes us to know you are spreading the truth of the gospel as it is in Jesus, praise His dear name! This as I read sounds so good. There are many, and I am one of them, who love to hear the truth preached. We can be very thankful for this work, and we do pray our blessed heavenly Father will bless you, sister and brother, and the work you are doing. I love the precious gospel of Christ. I became saved and sanctified through the reading and believing the New Testament, the gospel of Christ, and I do desire to get this truth to as many souls as I can. I will pray for what you are doing for Jesus, and you can remember me in your prayers. . ."

"I am not alone. I tell my children I am never alone. My Jesus is with me, and his dear love is in my heart and soul so I desire to be ready when Jesus calls. I am now 76 years young. . . . Thank my divine physician that He sees me. He knoweth me all together, He knoweth my down sitting. He knoweth mine up rising. Yea, He knoweth me all together, so I need not fear for He truly cares for even me. . . Christian love," --Sister Mittie Sultzbaugh

From Kansas: ". . . I greet you with joy, a song, and a hope, all given me by Christ Jesus. Thank the Lord, when He cleansed and made me whole, I was re-raced. I am now a member in particular in the one Christian race which dwells in the mountain of the Lord's house established in the top of the mountains. I can hardly wait to shout with Brother Paul and Brother Peter, but I pray God that many more lost will be saved before that blessed day. I hope and pray that all are doing well and prospering in their soul. Since the last time I corresponded with you much has occurred. . . I don't believe that there is any greater blessing that one can receive than by obeying God. I have found it to be true. Wichita is just another portion of the Lord's vineyard, and there is always much work to be done. Pray for me that I will be a vessel meet for the Master's use. Also pray that Harold and I will be an example of holiness as we represent Christ and His glorious church without spot or wrinkle, or any such thing. I would appreciate your sending my Mission Trail to my new address. . . Love and prayers," --Sister Beverly Reed

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From Kentucky: ". . . These are indeed perilous times and the gospel needs to go forth to every creature. Time is short in which to work. May the Lord help us--'be thou faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life'. We went to Ohio Sat. and was with the saints in service there Sun. Bro. Kenneth Abbott was anointed and prayed for for an ailment in his back, and during prayer for him, God touched Bro. Sam Abbott also--healed him of a real cold he had been troubled with for nearly two weeks. O, let us praise Him more and more for all he does for us. . . Keep giving the truth--it will stand." --Sis. S. E. Abbott

A Secret Place

I'm looking for a secret place
Where I can think and pray.
A harbor known for solitude;
I must find it today.

Then suddenly I realize,
There is no special place.
The secret world I'm looking for
Is within my realm of grace.

When I give love through kindness
According to God's plan,
My fears and tensions melt away,
The place is where I am.

--Agnes Gatties

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From Kansas: "I have an experience I wouldn't even part with. My head doesn't have to be hung low; neither my spirit in Christ vanished. For Christ is my keeper--everlasting flows the river of life. Oh, I'll lift up my head and rejoice for the hour salvation came. I'll grow and live by the holy Word. Hour by hour prayer is the key to open Heaven's door that keeps me strong."

--Mattie L. Bowman

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From Arkansas: "Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus. This morning finds me pressing on toward the mark. Surely I thank Him so much for touching my head last night. Well, it began to hurt in the afternoon, and toward dark it really was serious. I don't know if I ever had such suffering before, but like the blind man that said he was blind but 'now I see', last night I was suffering, but this morning I am at ease, but I am weak. . . I just told the dear Lord all about it--got out of bed and prayed and God answered prayer. . . May all the saints pray for me and my loved ones. With love and prayers to all,"

--Mrs. Nellie West

From Colorado: ". . . Greetings in Jesus' dear name. We would like to send in a testimony. We enjoy the Mission Trail so very much. Just wish we could hear your program here in Denver. Anyway, the testimonies are a real blessing to our hearts, and the news items are of interest. God will surely bless you for your sacrifices to get the gospel out.

"We are so thankful to report victory in our souls. There isn't much encouragement here, but we intend to stand if we have to stand alone. We have service on Sunday morning and Bible study on Friday night here in our home. There is only one, Sis. Vera Roaseau, that comes, but sometimes we have a real campmeeting among ourselves.

"The Lord has been good to us and touched Carl's body. He is feeling much better. We do give all praise and glory to God. We both desire continued prayer for afflictions we are trusting in God for. God has blessed our two boys and little girl with good health. We desire to rear them for Christ. They are a sweet blessing to our home.

"Truly we are finding it is "Sweet to Trust in Jesus, Just to Take Him at His Word." We desire your prayers that we'll be shining lights in this place. Christian love,"

--Carl Jr. and Berniece Miles

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From Missouri: "Dear Ones in the Lord, Greetings to you and may God bless in all your labors of love to Him. I'm still encouraged in Jesus and striving to please Him in all things. I'm not well in body and desire your prayers but so thankful for the daily strength and grace for each day. My heart's desire is to please God and be ready to meet Him when He comes. It will be so sad for those who are not ready. May God stir our hearts more and more for lost souls. Pray for my children. In Christian love,"

--Zella Dollins

From Washington: "Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey and family, I greet you in Jesus' dear name. I thank the Lord today for salvation. I am so thankful for all he has done for me. He helps me soul and body, and I put my trust in him. I want to live a life that is pleasing to him. Please pray for my unsaved family and for myself. Christian love,"

--Mrs. D. T. Thomas

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This Tongue of Mine

Oh; Spirit of the living God
Control this tongue of mine.
No knife is quite so sharp as words,
Yet words can be divine.
A tongue not yielded to God's will
Can stir up awful strife.
Lord use this tongue of mine today
To speak Thy words of life.

I want my tongue to sing God's praise,
To tell His love for me,
To speak God's Holy name in prayer
And thanks for Calvary.
Lord help me that this tongue of mine
Shall speak Thy word in love
That what I say will be Thy will
Directed from above.

Oh; Holy Spirit, faithful guide
This tongue of mine inspire
That only words that please the Lord
Shall be my heart's desire.
So may I lead some soul to Christ
By spoken words or songs.
Then as God leads, do not forget
My tongue to Him belongs.

--Sel. by Lou Bray

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"If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridled not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

--James 1:26-27

at press time

we understand:

We now have a supply of Volume III Mission Trail books ready for mailing. Those who write early and request them will get copies with only one issue missing for the entire year of 1967. We are offering them free and postpaid. Please let us know at once if you want one of these.

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Our best wishes are extended to Don Johnson and his bride, Lana (Lasiter), who were married in Neosho, Missouri Saturday afternoon, February 17. Their new mailing address is: 3909 Genessee, Kansas City, Missouri 64111.

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Earnest prayer is requested for Sis. Dessie LeMelle who suffers greatly with a large sore which has developed on her leg. She is trusting the Lord for her healing and also counting on the prayers of the saints.

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Congratulations to Randall and De-Loris Bradley of Coffeyville, Kansas upon the birth of their daughter, Feb. 13.

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An aged saint of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Sister Mattie Burke, is blind and needs someone to live with her and do the housework. A salary, room and board would be furnished. Those interested please write Sister Sam Barton, 2262 N. Columbia Place, Tulsa, Okla. 74110.

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Oh the pitfalls that are before us, Jesus knows them, every one. In His great and tender mercy, Keeps us till this life is done.

--Pauline Brown

From Louisiana: "Dear Bro. Willie and family, Greetings to all in Jesus' lovely name. This leaves me still determined to go all the way with and for our Lord. I enjoy the paper. . . May you keep the good work going. Love to all," --J. M. Mitchell

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Service

"The happiest people in the world are those who are living for others."

"He that would be greatest among you let him be servant of all."

"Give and it shall be given unto you, pressed down, shaken together and running over." Not money, merely, but time, love, interest and loving service invested will return with interest. How may you find the secret of a life of service? Live a life for the Master. Let Him unfold your life, your days, your years. He never fails. Be earnest, be diligent, be faithful. You will be abundantly useful.

We are but the chisel to carve God's statues in this world. Unquestionably we must do the work. But the human worker is only the chisel of the great Artist. The artist needs his chisel; but the chisel can do nothing, produce no beauty, of itself. The artist must seize it, and the chisel lay itself into his hand and be obedient to him. We appreciate those who are co-operating with us to help keep the message of truth going forth on the air and through the mail, sending the truth to those who are hungry. Remember us in your prayers.



THE MISSION TRAIL, originating in Guthrie, Okla., is broadcast by radio and published weekly in printed form by Willie and Frances Murphey with the help of others. It is mailed free of charge to those who request it. Its purpose is to reach the hungry hearts of the unsaved everywhere with the gospel which will save them. Its principal support comes from the free will contributions of its listeners and readers. Those who feel directed by the Lord to assist may do so by sending their offering to: THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Okla. 73044.



For some it will come true: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20. Let us hasten with the message which Jesus gave: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

Broadcast Schedule

Listen for THE MISSION TRAIL weekly on one of the following stations:

RADIO STATION	LOCATION	DIAL SETTING	TIME
KXOW	Hot Springs, Ark.	1420 kc.	Sunday, 7:15 a.m.
KCRS	Midland, Texas	550 kc.	Sunday, 7:45 a.m.
KCLO	Leavenworth, Kans.	1410 kc.	Sunday, 3:00 p.m.
WFPR	Hammond, La.	1400 kc.	Sunday, 7:45 a.m.
KCKW	Jena, La.	1480 kc.	Sunday, 7:30 a.m.
KCIJ	Shreveport, La.	980 kc.	Sunday, 7:30 a.m.

The Mission Trail

Box 99

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Return Requested

