



The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Willie C. Murphey • Frances E. Murphey • Kathleen E. Murphey • Patsy M. Murphey

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

VOL. 4, NO. 8

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Let Us Put First Things First

Radio Broadcast for week of March 10, 1968--(See back page for list of stations)

. . . A very cheerful greeting to all the listeners of this radio station. We are certainly happy to be coming your way once again with a short message from the Word of God. I believe I have something which will enrich your lives so we hope that all of you will stay with us for the next few minutes as we consider the unchanging Word of God in these perilous times of moral decay, bloodshed, and troubles all around us from day to day.

Let me give you two verses from the book of Matthew, the 6th chapter and verses 33 and 34. "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof."

Did you ever hear that old proverb about "putting the cart before the horse"? I don't really know all that may be meant by that, but I guess it would seem a little strange for a fellow to buy a nice wagon, have a comfortable spring seat placed in it, and get ready to take his produce to town (I am supposing now in this case that he would be a farmer) but not have a horse to pull the wagon. Well, that would seem a little foolish, wouldn't it? But anyway, some people do get the cart before the horse and let me tell you how.

This scripture which I just read a few moments ago said to seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. How differently so many people go about that in these days. They seek their education, they seek a nice car, then a companion, and, of course, they then need a home to live in. All the while, perhaps, they are thinking, I'll find

time to seek the Lord after I get these things. It seems to me that they are putting the cart before the horse.

But I'll tell you what the Lord wants you to do. He wants you to put him and his will before everything else in your life, and I will assure you that the balance of the affairs which affect your life will fall in sequence and proper order.

Do you remember when Paul and Silas were put in jail? They were beaten and placed in the inner prison. No doubt, the bruises and lacerations on their backs were sore and just as if they were going to get away, they had been placed in the stocks. This meant they were not even free to move about as they chose, but they were cramped up and confined to a very tiresome position. Let me tell you what they did. They first began to sing and pray. This was along about midnight. Well,

things began to happen when they put the Lord's will first in their lives. There was a great earthquake, the old prison began to shake, and the jail house doors flew open. Everything worked out fine, don't you see? And all of this was because they put first things first.

When Joshua led the triumphant Israelites across the Jordan River, and the priests with the Ark of the Covenant were the first ones to step into the water, the Lord did a miraculous thing there that day. We read that the waters were parted, and God's people marched through on dry land. That was because they put God's covenant first, and it went before them. Now understand, it wasn't after them, it was first.

But this was only the beginning of their victories. When they came to that great walled city of Jericho, they first obeyed God's order, and I can almost visualize them as they marched around that city one time each day for seven days. Then on the seventh day they marched around the walls of Jericho seven times, and yet nothing happened until they shouted the victory. That was the turning point in their victory over Jericho and the destruction of that place. The walls crumbled before them and they marched forth to victory.

When the responsibility as a king fell upon the shoulders of Solomon, the son of David, the Lord appeared to him in a dream, and he was told to make his request for anything which he should choose. Friends, I wonder if such an opportunity was yours today what would be your first choice? Sometimes in a contest certain companies give away great sums of money and prizes. They will have first, second and third choices and so on down the line.

But let me tell you what Solomon's first choice was. Here it is from I Kings, the 3rd chapter and the 9th verse. This is Solomon speaking, and here is what he said, "Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?"

God was pleased with such a request as this. Not only did He give Solomon wisdom such as none had ever had before, but along with it came riches and glory--an honor such as had not been known before him. Friends, let me tell you plainly, he put first things first.

Now that sounds good, doesn't it? But let me point out to you this scripture from Luke, the 14th chapter and the 33rd verse. It says, "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple." You see, there is some giving up before we get the true riches. It is true that we must give up everything that is contrary to Christian principles, but it is also true that most of what we give up is exchanged for that which is far superior.

We give up dissatisfaction and get satisfaction. We give up our way and get God's way. We give up pleasures of this world and get true pleasure. We give up darkness and we get light. Friends, let me ask you this. Would you not give up your doubts to get trust? Would you not give up strife to get peace? Would you not give up poverty to get the true riches? Yes, and more than that, we give up sorrow and get joy. We give up weariness and get rest. We give up despair and get hope. The prodigal son gave up husk to get bread. I am glad that all of us have

the privilege to give up death and get life--eternal life. What is worth more than that?

Listen to this poem.

Teach Me to Live

Teach me to live! 'Tis far easier to die--
Gently and silently to pass away--
On earth's long night to close the heavy
eye,
And awaken in the realms of glorious
day.

Teach me that harder lesson--how to
live
To serve Thee in the darkest path of life;
Arm me for conflict--fresh vigor give,
And make me more than conqueror in
the strife.

Teach me to live! Thy purpose to fulfill;
Bright for Thy glory let my taper shine;
Each day renew, remold this stubborn
will;
Closer round Thee my heart's affection
twine.

Teach me to live for self and sin no
more,
But use the time remaining to me yet,
Not mine own pleasure seeking, as
before--
Wasting no precious hours in vain regret.

Teach me to live! no ilder let me be,
But in Thy service hand and heart employ,
Prepared to do Thy bidding cheerfully--
Be this my highest and holiest joy.
--Selected

Let us pray.

Our Father,
Bless each one who has their radio
tuned to this message today. May they
give up everything which would stand

in their way and seek God first in their
lives and find the happiness which
comes only from a surrendered life and
thine shall be the praise through Christ
our Lord. Amen

Friends, this message has been
brought your way today by THE MISSION
TRAIL of Guthrie, Oklahoma. Our
work is a work of faith, and we depend
upon God and those who have a love for
the truth to help us keep this message
on the air and the printed copies going
forth in the mail. If you would like a
printed copy of today's message, be
sure to let us know. There is no charge
or obligation. We freely received
pardon and peace from God, and we
want to pass it on to you without cost.
Will you help us in passing God's Word
along to others? Address your letter
to THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie,
Oklahoma.

Here now is a song, "Thou Shalt Be
First". The singers are Lynn and Alma
Carver, Arnett and Genevieve Carver.

Be with us again next Sunday at this
same time on this same station for an-
other 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!

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From Missouri: "Each morning as
we go on our way, let us rejoice and
spread our hands as we go. . . and
praise God for the glory and beauty we
see. Let us be glad we are alive and
breathe the pure air that He gives us.
Let us praise Him all day long and
whisper a prayer as we go on our way
and bless those that call us names, for
we know that we have a home in glory
land beyond the blue forever with God
in glory on high." --W. D. Harmon

Testimonies

In a recent letter from Ohio Johnny and Della Gutwein told how they had been awakened during the night when their baby Jeffrey was very sick and in need of prayer. They began to pray and to call the saints for prayer, and God came to their rescue and healed the child. The letter went on to say: ". . . the dear Lord settled him completely and he went off to sleep. He is asleep now as I write. I just couldn't go to bed without writing and telling what God has done. He had such a high fever but the Lord has undertaken for that too. Before Bro. McCoy left he suggested we sing a song. We got our books and sang "What a Mighty God We Serve". Surely we do serve a mighty God. . . The enemy can paint some pretty dark pictures, but there are so many precious scriptures that can just blot them out. . . Pray for us, and we will continue to pray for you. . ."

--Johnny, Della & Jeffrey Gutwein

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From Arkansas: "Dear Bro. and Sister Murphey, I have just now read in Mission Trail that you may have to discontinue some of the stations now carrying your message if listeners don't send in help. I started praying at once that God will help us to keep the message on the air. I cried and prayed. I'm going to continue praying. . . . Surely God wants this message to keep going out at this terrible time of sin and unrest all over the world. I am truly concerned, and I will pray every day. A sister in Christ,"

--Belva Howard

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From California: "Today finds me saved and still fighting the enemy of our souls. . . We need your prayers."

--Edith Reavis

From Oklahoma: "Dear Brother and family, I do enjoy reading the Mission Trail so much. I have never been able to get the radio station. I am old and live alone but try to do all the good I can. The dear Lord has been so good to me. I am 86 years old and have lived here 47 years at my home in Moore. My husband has been gone 19 years. . . ." --Mrs. B. M. Mattheson

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From Missouri: "Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Frances, Greetings of love. . . . I got to go home last Friday and stayed until Sunday evening. I hadn't been home for five weeks. . . I surely thank the Lord for working it out for me to go home for a few days. I was so glad to get to go see David.

"Ruth has been some better the last few days, but today she seems worse. Two or three days ago Clayton and I felt sure that she recognized us for a short period of time. This isn't definite, but the social worker in the hospital said that Dr. Holly talked like it would be two or three weeks before Ruth would be released. She said Dr. Holly didn't much think Ruth would be able to go home on account of the care Ruth would have to have. I think that they will release her from this hospital in the near future, but I don't know where they will send her. We still have this case in the Lord's hands, and we know He knows how and when to work it out for us to have Ruth home again. Keep praying for us. May God bless you there." --Eva Lou Gaines

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From California: "Dear Bro. Willie and family, I appreciate the Mission Trail very much. May God bless you and give you souls for your hire. The dear Lord is blessing me in a very special way for which I am seeking ways to return thanks unto God."

--F. E. Doolittle

A Mission of Love

This week a large school bus is on its way to California loaded with supplies for the missionary work in Mexico. The bus, although it is an old one, has been given a fresh coat of blue and white paint by those interested in the Lord's work in that needy field. Brother Dale Doolittle of Hammond, La. felt that the Lord spoke to him about giving the bus, and other members of the congregation there have assisted in this endeavor by giving boxes of clothing and such things as may be used by the missionaries and the natives in Mexico. When Dale made a stop at Midway, La. with this bus on his "mission of love" to Mexico an additional supply of clothing and canned goods was given by the saints there. The bus itself and contents upon reaching California is to be taken to Mexico for use by the missionaries, and it is hoped that not only will many physical needs of the natives be supplied by this gift of love, but that they may be made to feel and know the love of God which is in Christ Jesus and find satisfaction for their spiritual needs as well. Remember them in your prayers.

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From Missouri: "Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey and family, Greetings! I trust you are well and encouraged in the Lord's work. The little Mission Trail means so much to me. I know it does to many others who receive it. We were at Myrtle, Mo. for Sunday morning service. Bro. Murphy Allen preached. I am so thankful we got to go. I have had so much trouble with a hurting in my back. The saints remembered me in prayer Sun. My back seems better this morning. I do thank the Lord. . . Please remember me in your prayers, also an unspoken request. . . ."

--Edith Robinson

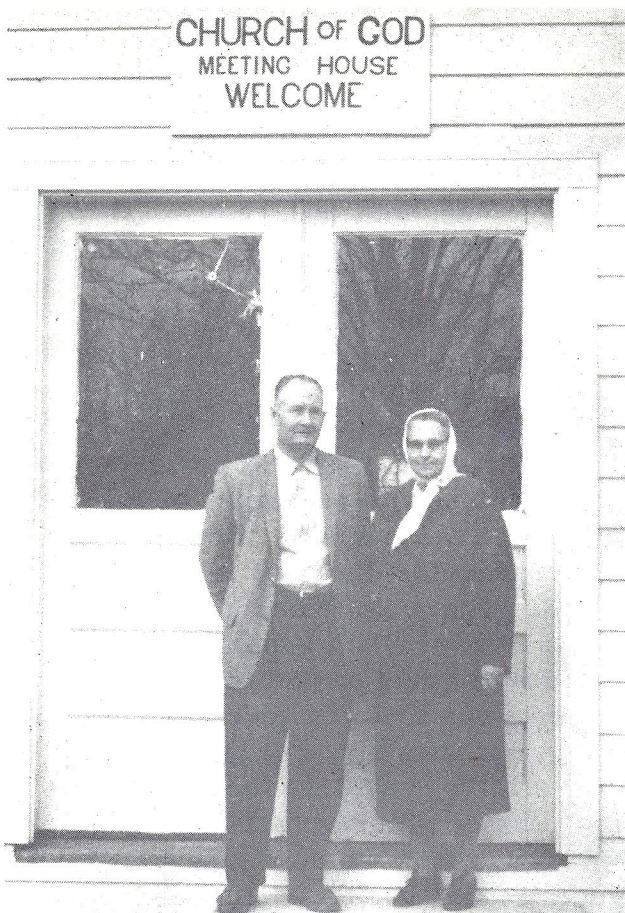
Scoffers

A young lady writes that she and her husband visited in a friend's home where there were eight of them gathered together. She went on to say: "They got into the subject of religion. Out of 8 people there were 5 different doctrines. There was one of Jewish faith, two Catholics, three Methodists, one Baptist and one Church of God." The writer in this case was the Church of God. She further stated: "My heart grieves when I think of how these dear people are blinded to the truth. . . We all need to be praying for the lost souls of this world. There isn't much time and the end is near! When I mentioned that the world was going to end before too much longer, our friends just laughed and disagreed with me, but the sad part is what will they say when they see Jesus?" Yes, the scriptures tell us that in the last days there would be scoffers who would say: "Where is the promise of his coming?" Let us lift up our heads for surely our redemption draweth nigh.

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From Missouri: "Dear Brother Murphey and family, We greet you in Jesus' precious name! My, He is so good to us. It is such a beautiful morning. We should all be able to praise his name. We have all been sick with colds and stomach flu, but the Lord has given grace when we needed it. There has been so much sickness here as probably there has been other places. I believe everyone is ready for spring to come. We surely enjoy the Mission Trail and enjoy the pictures you put in from time to time. They are such good pictures. Also the testimonies we enjoy. . . Trust this finds your family all well and encouraged to press the battle on. Some day we will see it was worth it all. Pray for us."

--Bro. and Sis. Howard Hill



Bro. Albert and Sis. Margaret Eck are shown standing in front of the chapel where they are active for the Lord in Grubbs, Arkansas.

From Arkansas: "Dear Bro. and Sis. Murphey and all the saints, Just a few lines this beautiful sunshiny day. Hope all you dear ones there are well and encouraged in the Lord to keep pressing on. I am writing to request prayer for my healing. I have been real sick with a bad hurting in my right side. I don't know what it is, but the dear Lord knows all about it, and I am trusting in him, and I am his child. Please pray for me. Your Sister in Christ,"

--Della Anschultz

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We were glad to be in service with the saints of Grubbs on the night of March 7. Sister Della came by faith. We are praying God to heal her completely.

--Willie

"Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled."

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From Minnesota: "Dear Bro. and Sis. Willie Murphey, Greetings of love in the holy and precious name of Jesus. This finds me well in soul and body and going on till the call comes to come up higher. I thank you for the Mission Trail paper. It is an encouragement to us who are isolated. We are still rejoicing in the Lord who has done so much for us in times past, and we have a beautiful home to go to when our life's work is ended. God bless and keep you. May He keep his hand of love over you and give you untold power to feed the sheep and the lambs. With much love and prayers, I remain a saved and sanctified Bro. in the Lord,"

--Andrew Senti

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From Mississippi: "Dear Ones, Greetings in Jesus' dear name. Hope all of you are well. God blesses me in many ways for which I praise him very much. I suffer in different ways but am still trusting him. Please continue to pray for all of us. In some ways my brother and mother are not so well. With love and very best wishes,"

--Dorothy Bridges

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From Arkansas: "I am better in some ways--one way is growing in faith--trusting the Lord, and I am as happy as if I could get around real good. I do enjoy the Mission Trail. The good testimonies make me want to shout, to know there are people trusting the good Lord."

--Ruth Scalf

at press time

we understand:

The revival meeting which was held in Guthrie last week was well attended. Bro. and Sis. Coffey from Hammond, Louisiana were with us, and he brought some very timely messages. It is hoped that the truths presented will help to establish and settle each one who was present. Bro. and Sis. Coffey were planning to have a few nights' services with the saints of Shawnee this week before returning to their home in Hammond, Louisiana.

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"I want to put in a very special request for prayer concerning my youngest son David. I am very burdened for him and his wife Sue. The devil is working hard to break up their marriage and pray earnestly that they will remember their vows and get saved and live for God." --Sis. Nellie West

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From Arkansas: "Dear Murphey family, We got your program two Sundays -- real good reception, and enjoyed it very much. . . Remember us in your prayers. Love," --Lona Cryer

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Prayer is requested for Sis. Dottie Henry and Sis. LeMelle of California.

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Gospel Singing

The Church of God saints of Springfield, Mo. extend a hearty welcome to attend a gospel service in song, Sat. night, March 30, at 7:45 p. m. with all day services the day following, March 31, Sunday. The chapel is located at 718 N. Kansas.

Thursday, March 7, Patsy and I had the privilege of being in service with Bro. and Sis. Albert Eck and the congregation of Grubbs, Arkansas. We made several different stops where we visited others in the state of Arkansas, including Bro. and Sis. Everett Loftis of Prattsville. Sunday we enjoyed the fellowship of the Lord's people in Shreveport where Bro. C. C. Carver is pastor. The chapel is located there at 7106 Southern Avenue. On the return trip home Monday we certainly felt and saw the protecting hand of God around us as we came through a swirling, blinding snowstorm where hundreds of cars were stalled on the expressways and streets of Oklahoma City. We saw many cars in the ditches, but God's mercy and protection was upon us to bring us safely in, although we were delayed for several hours. --Willie

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From Louisiana: "Sunday, March 3 over radio station KCIJ, Shreveport, I heard you read a poem that was so beautiful I am taking the liberty to ask you for a copy of it. The title is, 'It's Planned'. Sincerely yours,"

--Mrs. Chas. Moulard

(NOTE: We yet have a supply of these poems along with the message. If there are others who want one, let us know. They are sent free and postpaid.)

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From California Senior Citizens' Home: "I am intending to do as the song they sang this morning, 'Press on, press on', and keep true to my Saviour unto the end." --Emma Luehring



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

