



The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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

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

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Excuses Will not Stand

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Radio Broadcast for week of June 16, 1968 (See back page for list of stations)

... Friends, we are happy to be coming your way once again by means of radio, as we do each week on this station. God has been good to us and we desire to be a blessing to others as we spread the saving gospel of Christ. Let us ever keep in mind this scripture which I referred to last week on the broadcast: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." I mentioned that the scripture was in Matthew, but when our daughter, Patsy, was preparing the message for print, she informed me that it was in Mark 16:15. But I will assure you it is scripture and I believe God wants His people to be up and about the task of sending forth the gospel while the doors are open. It seems that the powers of darkness are settling down upon the people of the earth. Their hearts are turning away from the truth. If we may be of help to you in finding the peace and joy of heaven be sure to write us and let us pray for you. If you should be in trouble and need spiritual advice, feel free to call us and let us help you if we can. Address your letter to THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Oklahoma. Here is a scripture which is applicable to many of our day. Listen:

"Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it; I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them; I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come." Luke 14:16-21

Doesn't that sound typical of our day? Can you think of any other excuses why people are offering so many reasons which they are making for not living as they should? I once heard an expression from a good friend of mine which went something like this: "It takes longer to explain why you didn't do a certain thing right than it does to do it!" And how true that is! Excuses are not what God needs or wants. He wants those who will put into action the word of God. He wants action--not excuses.

But let us look into this further and see a few of the excuses which are made these days. A very common one is this one: "not now". I suppose this comes from some who have good intentions but want to wait a little longer before surrendering. But let me tell you something: God's time is "now"--not tomorrow.

Then another thing you might ask your self--what is to be gained by waiting?

Felix waited for a more convenient season to hear Paul. We have no record that Felix ever found time. It is quite likely that Felix died in his sins.

"Sinful man, thy days are few,
How swiftly they decline!
Time will never wait for you,
Only now is thine."

Another excuse given at times is--"tomorrow". Some people have good intentions fully to do differently "tomorrow". Have you ever heard the expression that "tomorrow never comes"? How true that is. Listen to this scripture: "Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth." Prov. 27:1

Here is a poem entitled:

Procrastination

Unto a youth the Gospel came,
Exhorting him in Jesus' name,
To turn from sin, embrace the truth
And serve the Lord in days of youth.

The youth replied, "I know that's right,
But I won't turn from sin tonight;
A few more pleasures I will seek,
And then I'll turn, perhaps next week."

But next week came, and still his heart
Was not inclined from sin to part.
"A few more days in sin I'll live,
And then my heart to God I'll give."

Days pass by, and months roll on,
And still he sings the same old song:
"Not now, but after while I'll pray
For God to wash my sins away."

The months and years went by so fast,
From youth to middle age he passed;
And yet his sins were not forgiven,
Nor yet his name enrolled in Heaven.

From middle age to old he went;
His body 'neath the years was bent;
"His conscience once so keen to feel,
No more was stirred at God's appeal."

Procrastination in its stealth
Had robbed his soul of heaven's wealth;
And so at last to sin a slave,
He died to fill a Christless grave.

O Souls, behold, God says, Today
Turn now from all your sins away,
Lest you should reach your doleful fate,
And cry at last, "Too late, too late".
--Ulysses Phillips

Can you think of other excuses why people do not live for the Lord? Did you ever hear of anyone being too young? Let me tell you something. If a child knows right from wrong, and he feels the condemnation and guilt of a wrong which he has done, he is old enough to repent and be saved. I remember some of the dealings of the Lord with me in the days of my childhood and youth. That is really time for one to become settled and established in the things of God. Listen to this verse from Eccl. 12:1. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;" Think of that old and familiar song:

"Tomorrow's sun may never rise,
To bless thy long deluded sight;
Poor sinner, harden not your heart,
Be saved, Oh, tonight."

Here are some other very poor excuses which people sometimes give. "Wait until I enjoy more of the pleasure of this world or until I attain more of the wealth which I want so badly." Listen, friends, Moses chose to suffer affliction with the people of God rather than

enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. What do you choose? He could have had riches and pleasures combined, but this he refused for the call of God. One writer in comparing the eternal values with the temporal things which decay put it this way:

"I would not give up my title
To that future world of bliss
For the shining gold and silver
Of a thousand worlds like this.
I would rather bear affliction,
Be a hated pilgrim here,
Miss the diadems terrestrial,
And obtain a crown up there."

Yes, friends, that is my choice, too. What is your choice today: Then no doubt there are many other excuses. "I am in trouble", "I could not keep salvation", "I am too sinful", "My parents would disinherit me". These are indeed poor ones, aren't they? But here is a mistaken opinion which is sometimes expressed. "I can get saved whenever I please". Friends, this may be the very thing which will cause you to miss heaven and wait until it is for ever too late. Listen to this verse:

"Some day, yes, when forever
The mercy door is closed,
And your lost soul must suffer
Amid eternal woes,
In bitter grief and anguish
You'll think upon the day,
When trifling with God's mercy,
You careless said, "Some day."

Shall we pray.
Our Father,

Bless the words of the message today to every soul and may it serve the means of causing all who will to turn from the paths of sin to walk in newness of life with thee. Thine shall be the praise forever in Christ's name. Amen

Friends, this program is heard over this station each week and is brought your way by THE MISSION TRAIL of Guthrie, Okla. If you have not already done so be sure to write for the printed copies which we mail each week. They contain other choice items and testimonies not heard on the air. And then if we may be of any help to you be sure to let us know. We believe that God is still hearing and answering prayer. We believe in praying for the sick and suffering ones as well as for those who need salvation. Address your letter to THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Okla.

Here is a song now by the Carver Quartet. "Jesus is pleading for thee."

Be with us again next week at this same time on this same station for another broadcast. Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying may the Lord's richest blessings be with each of you and a very cheerful good-bye!

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Procrastination is the thief of time, and all excuses will not prevent us from reaping the harvest which we have sown.

Meeting Report

From South Carolina: ". . . Greetings in the dear name of Jesus. This finds me still pressing onward and upward in this beautiful way. It satisfies my soul. Praise the dear Lord. The meeting is good and it's good to be here. You know I got home Tuesday evening from Guthrie and the very next afternoon I was in the midst of a big washing and Lloyd Eck called and wanted to know if I still wanted to go to Holly Hill campmeeting. If I did I could go with them but would need to take bus from Springfield, Mo. that night at 11:30 arriving in Little Rock, Ark. Wednesday morning at 8:30. I had so many decisions to make and much praying to do. I was so tired. Reuel was at work in Springfield and Vivian had gone with the neighbor to Springfield to shop. I had Pattie, so I told the Lord that if it was His will I should go just make it clear. I worked hard to get suitcases unpacked and packed again and when Reuel and Vivian came home they said, "Mom, I think it's the thing for you to do. We will help you." Vivian fixed a nice supper and helped me with my ironing and they took me to Springfield to get bus at nearly midnight. Lloyd and Judy met me there in Little Rock next morning and on we came. We stopped several places. One was at the Vernon Carvers at Atlanta, Ga., also at an uncle and aunt of Judy's there in Atlanta, Ga. They were all so delighted to have us. On we came giving out literature as we came. We got here to Holly Hill Sunday noon. The meeting is half gone and has been so good so far--well attended. The ministers are the Abbotts, Bro. McCoy, the Gordon Humphreys, Bro. and Sis. Amos Davis, the Bobby Forbes, and the Lloyd Ecks, besides Bro. O'Neal Pratt that is here. We are having much rain here this

week, but they are glad for it as it has been dry here. . . oh I do miss my precious companion so very much. He meant so much to me. . . Please remember me. I do feel so dependent upon God. I do want His way in my future life. Love and prayers,"

--Sister Evelyn Gibson

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Testimonies

"Dear Bro. Willie & Sis. Frances, God has been especially good to us in the last month. He is surely worthy of all our praise and thanksgiving. Richard was stricken with what we thought was a heart attack almost a month ago. He had a bad stomach disorder too. But God has healed him of these things. Then last Wed. Dickie, our 14 yr. old son was taken very ill with what surely was appendicitis. He suffered so intensely from about 3 o'clock Wed. morning until sometime Fri. But God has answered prayer again. He is resting and is able to be up when it is needful. God is still healing his trusting children. Praise the name of our God! We would like to thank all of the dear ones who called and who prayed for us during our trouble. Also for the nice cards and letters. What could be more proof of the love of God in his people than these kind acts. All our family enjoy your little paper so much. With Christian love,"

--Oleta & Richard Madden

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When I gaze toward the west in the evening

As the sun goes sinking down
Behind the hills in their beauty
I think of a wondrous crown
With jewels all brilliant and glistening
While God in His heaven above
Looks down on the earth and is listening

For our words of Thanksgiving and love.

--Sel. by Lou Bray

From Oklahoma: "Dear ones in Christ Jesus, greetings. I am happy in our Saviour. "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, Bless his holy name." I am here at Aunt Lizzie's place. I came from work. We enjoy to read in Heb. 2 and it encourages us to hold fast to the Word of God in deed and truth. . . May God bless His word to the souls of men. Pray for us all,"

--Sister Eva Penner

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From Kentucky: "June 12, 1968, Dear Bro. Willie, Sis. Frances, and family, Greetings in Jesus dear name. We trust this finds each of you well and encouraged to press on for our dear Lord. It has been some time since I've written to you, but have been quite busy. Mart's father has been very sick for about six weeks now and Mart has been at his bedside three weeks. He called me about an hour or so ago and told me his father passed away this a. m. at 4:30. He had an easy crossing Mart said. We do thank each of the saints for their prayers in his behalf and also our behalf. Last night made 22 nights in a row that Mart sat up with his father. He was getting tired and weary. But the Lord kept giving strength. . . Its been very hot and humid here the last few days. Continue to pray for us. We hope to see you at Monark, Lord willing. I must close as I have to leave today to go over home. I've lots to do in getting ready. Bye for now. With lots of love to all,"

--Sis. Verna Samons and family,
Route 2, Box 156,
Danville, Ky. 40422.

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From Pa.: "Dear ones, enclosed a small offering to The Mission Trail. I enjoy it very much. May the Lord bless and help you and keep you encouraged is my prayer."

--Mrs. Paul Slifer

From Oregon: ". . . I am praising God with all my heart for salvation and the way He has blest me with this \$3.00 to give to help lost souls. I am making baby booties. I told the Lord I would give Him every dollar I made. I get orders for them faster than I can get them made. . . I know my time is short at the longest. God bless you all in your good work. I enjoy the little Mission paper. Do pray God to heal and strengthen me. . . Love to you all."

--Sister O. K. Myers

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"It is never too late to do good."

--Sarah Brown

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From La.: "Greetings of Christian love in the lovely name of Jesus who is so merciful and good to all of us to answer our prayers, bless and protect us all the time. It's so sweet to feel His abiding presence all the time and to know He loves and cares for us. I am still enjoying the good singing and . . . messages on WFPR and they come through good. I hope and pray you can always be on and I believe the good Lord will provide the needs if we earnestly pray, have faith and trust Him . . ."

--Mrs. John O. Robertson

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"I heard the voice of Jesus say,
Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one,
Stoop down, and drink, and live!
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul
revived,
And now I live in Him." --Selected

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From Texas: "I am thankful to say I have victory over sin. I believe I've found what I've been searching for. Please pray for us, as we have some problems to be worked out. . . . Sincerely,"

--Tom Melot

From North Carolina: ". . . Greetings in the dear name of our blessed Lord and saviour. I trust all of you are keeping well and marching on with victory in the work of the Lord. Oh, how good God has been to us all. We have so much to thank and praise him for His love and mercy. I am here in Laurinburg, N. C. with my daughter and children. The Lord has been blessing and helping out in many ways. I am happy in the Lord and thank him for the peace and joy He give me each day. I miss the saints and the service but the Lord is here. I would like for you to send me The Mission Trail. I used to read some of the others in the Golden Rule Home. I enjoyed it very much. . . With Christian love,"

--Della Perry

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BE READY!

We are nearing that bright city,
And we know it won't be long
Until we stand among the angels
With that righteous happy throng.

Just across the shining river,
Soon our bark will sail for aye,
Are you ready for that going,
And to meet Jesus in that last great
day?

Neighbors, friends, loved ones,
Are you ready for that last great day?
Are you pure and cleansed before Him
And your sins all washed away?

Ready to stand among the angels
In that bright and happy land
Our sins all cleansed, forgiven,
Washed away in the blood of the Lamb.

Does He witness to your spirit
Of that bright and happy home,
Where He's gone to prepare us
A place from where we ne'er shall
roam? --Dolly Williams

From Arkansas: ". . . I get your paper every week and I really enjoy it. Bro. and Sis. Loftis come down often and we pray together. I know God is with me and He has been with me during my illness. I hope He will see me through. . . Pray for me that I may recover soon. I've tried to pick up your broadcast on the Hot Springs station but haven't found it yet. Yours in Christ,"

--Mrs. Edd Rusher

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From Golden Rule Home: ". . . I have been wanting to write you for a long time to let you know how the Lord worked things out for me. I was very depressed and was planning on going to some friends in New Jersey. But the Lord had other plans for me and I am with Sis. Poulos helping her the best I can. Oh, she is a great help to me spiritually. And I am more contented. Praise the Lord for his goodness to me. . . Pray for me to have more spiritual understanding and wisdom. Also please remember Sister Poulos. Love and prayers,"

--Sis. Agnes Gatties

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From Missouri: "Dear Bro. Murphey and family, Greetings in Jesus name. I am asking you to pray for my daughter who has asked me to request prayer for her healing of her eyes and back. She is not saved. Will you pray for her salvation. Also remember me. I don't feel too well. I am still rejoicing over getting to meet you, your daughter and Sis. Perkins. Any time you are passing through St. Louis stop and visit us. John is still happy that he got to meet you. Sister Scanlan called this week. She is visiting her sister in St. Louis she visited before--a dear saint of God.

Christian love,"

--Mary J. Adams

at press time

we understand:

THE NATIONAL CAMPMEETING AT MONARK SPRINGS, MISSOURI BEGINS JULY 19. BE SURE TO BE THERE!

The Jefferson, Oregon campmeeting begins today, Friday, June 21. The Hammond, La. services begin next Friday, June 28.

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Garfield, Arkansas: ". . . Next Sunday (3rd Sunday, June 16) we have the all day meeting, then we'll omit the meetings in July, August, and September."

--Lou Bray

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Bro. Curtis Williams brought the message for the Enid congregation Sunday night. He had just arrived from Kentucky and was on his way to the Oregon meeting. He plans to accompany Bro. and Sis. L. D. Chrisman and son in their pickup with camper. Remember Sister Williams in prayer as she is not well in body and remained at home with the children.

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Congratulations to Don and Juanita Williamson, of Olla, Louisiana, on the birth of their son, Keith Maurice, on June 9, 1968.

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It has been raining some in this area and the wheat harvest has been delayed somewhat but we are grateful that God has been blessing his people with a good yield. We also desire to have the spiritual blessings from heaven that we may be able to impart the bread of life to those who are longing for the happiness which only the gospel can bring.

Frances and I were glad to have Sister Frances Porter and her daughter, Marsha, accompany us and our family to our appointment at Anthony, Kansas last Sunday.

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I was very much impressed by one testimony which we have in this issue of an aged saint who is using her spare time to make baby booties that she sells in order that she may have to give to the cause of the gospel. Jesus told of one in his day and said; "She hath done what she could." Let us each ask ourselves the question: "Have I done all that God is expecting of me?" We know that the task of reaching all the world is more than what one individual can do, but the Lord is expecting each to do their part.

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Sister Myrtle Niswonger desires prayer for both soul and body.

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"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:" Romans 1:20

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Misgivings in materialistic matters are often a concern but are only an indication to the more important matters of moral deterioration and spiritual decline which is taking place in our nation.



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.



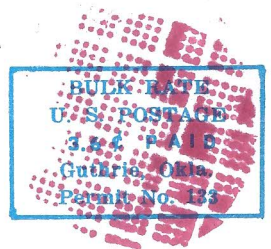
For some it will come true: "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved." Jer. 8:20. Let us hasten with the message which Jesus gave: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in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