



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing
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

VOL. 6 NO. 43

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

NOVEMBER 13, 1970

Drifting

Radio Broadcast for week of November 8, 1970 (See back page for list of stations.)

Good morning, friends. We are glad for every listener of THE MISSION TRAIL broadcast. We hope you are enjoying the blessings of the Lord. Occasionally we get a letter from someone who writes us for the first time and tells us that they have been listening to the broadcast. This is a real thrill to me. I enjoy hearing from new places and new people. So if you have never written to us we would like to know if you get a blessing from the broadcast. The address is simple. Just send your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla. You might like a printed copy of the weekly message. Request it when you write. There is no charge or obligation on your part. Now this scripture,

"Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love."

I want you to notice that this particular congregation had some good principles. The Lord reminded them that he knew their works and their labours. They had patience and they stood against that which was evil. Even some of those who professed to be apostles were found to be liars, so these folks evidently didn't tolerate them. These saints had borne a lot for the cause of Christ and they had great patience and didn't give

up easily. But I want you to notice this one charge brought against them. They were warned that they had left their first love. To me this indicates a falling away from their original zeal and steadfastness. Or to put it in language which you might understand even better, this congregation was just simply backsliding. Backsliding isn't a very good word. It doesn't sound good. I don't like it. It indicates a losing out, a turning away from that which at one time they possessed. Of all the people who are miserable, wretched, unhappy, and restless I think a backslider must be among that number. Listen to the way Peter describes a backslider, "For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them." II Peter 2:21

But remember this. I believe that in most cases backsliding comes about on a gradual scale or decline. So often

