



# The Mission Trail

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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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## Keep the Faith

Radio Broadcast for week of January 31, 1971 (See back page for list of stations.)

"I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." II Tim. 4:1-8

Good morning, friends. It is surely a pleasure to be coming your way once again by means of radio. I hope you will stay tuned to this station for the next few minutes as we discuss some of the things which I believe are of vital importance to you. I believe the Apostle Paul knew through divine inspiration what he was talking about concerning the things that were coming to pass in these last days. Do you notice that he mentioned the time was going to come when folks would not endure sound doctrine? So many are not interested in the Bible truths, but they prefer to have someone speak to them in a smooth way. I suppose that it eases their conscience more, but this within itself is some of the indications of the signs of our time. Surely these things are being fulfilled before our very eyes. He said these folks would be "having itching ears". Now that doesn't mean that a bug has bitten them on the ear and they

have to scratch it, but that simply means they are anxious to hear these smooth things which don't disturb them. But let us hasten on.

Remember now that Paul was writing these things in the shadow of the "guillotine" so to speak. In other words it was just before he came to the close of his ministry. And he seemed to know that he was near the end, for he said "the time of my departure is at hand". But that isn't all he said. He wrote "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith". I dare say that most of us have never come quite this close to having our lives taken from us by the guillotine. What would you write or think or do if you knew that you were only--oh, say, one week from the end of your life? Would you begin making restitutions? Would you seek out your enemies to ask forgiveness for the way you have treated

them? Or would you be on your knees seeking the pardon and favor of God?

I am going to share with you a letter which we recently received from Moreese Bickham. Now Moreese is a prisoner on death row in the Louisiana State Prison. I am glad that he finds comfort and strength from the Word of God and in the reading of good literature. I have made some grammatical corrections in this letter, but I am sure he would not mind. Here it is:

"This is indeed a pleasure to address you these few lines. I thank you for continuing the paper. It is so wonderful to read those wonderful sermons. The one which moved me most was last one of this year, the part about sin lies at our door, about the thing as Paul says in Romans 2:10-11. I am truly willing to accept what the Lord has in store for me. As you may know that God is a merciful god, he has shown me his mercy through men for so long till all I can say is 'Thank you, Jesus'. I want to continue to receive the paper, sorry I am not able to make a contribution. I hope some day things will change and if the Lord will, I hope to meet you and the family in services, if not here, somewhere around God's throne. I have been taking Bible courses for some time now. My eyes are bad, and I do not do so much reading now, but I pray like Daniel did and can say God will answer if we pray and pray right, as the scripture says we know not what to pray for but the spirit within us gives us utterance that we should say let thy will be done in earth as it is done in heaven, let our will be submitted to his will. He has taken care of me these twelve years. It is true that he will make your enemies live at peace with you when you live according to his commandments. He fed John on

the Island of Patmos, he delivered the children from the fiery furnace. . . Daniel from the Lions' den. Yes, some say in those days there were those that had hope and faith in their saviour, but I say there are some this day and time. The trouble is we do not have the patience to wait on God. We can't hurry God. He knows our thoughts. He made us, truly he knows our needs. I am asking that you all pray with me that my soul rejoice in the triumph of death and I keep the faith. I wish you and Mission Trail a prosperous new year, hope to continue to receive the papers. So I say, may the Lord take good care of us all and bless us as he sees fit. My heart goes out to those that are trying to carry the Word of God to the world. There is no greater work which can be done. Do keep the good works up. So I close, yours in Christ our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ with all due respect. Yours truly and sincerely to the family and church," Moreese Bickham, Death Row, Angola, La.

Thank you, Moreese. I am glad to share with the listeners of the radio audience some of your inmost feelings as you expressed in your letter. I am sure that many people would change their outlook on life were they facing the things which are ahead of you. May God bless and strengthen you to be true to God, even in the shadows of death row. Listen to this poem:

#### JESUS, I'LL GO THROUGH WITH THEE

I have made my choice forever;  
I will walk with Christ my Lord;  
Naught from him my soul can sever,  
While I'm trusting in his Word.  
I the lonely way have taken,  
Rough and toilsome though it be,  
And although despised, forsaken,  
Jesus, I'll go through with thee.

Though the garden lies before me,  
And the scornful judgment-hall;  
Though the gloom of deepest midnight  
Settles round me like a pall,  
Darkness can affright me never;  
From thy presence shadows flee;  
And if thou wilt guide me ever,  
Jesus, I'll go through with thee.

Though the earth may rock and tremble,  
Though the sun may hide its face,  
Though my foes be strong and ruthless,  
Still I dare to trust thy grace;  
Though the cross my path o'ershadow,  
Thou didst bear it once for me,  
And whate'er the pain of peril,  
Jesus, I'll go through with thee.

When the conflict here is ended,  
And the weary journey done;  
When the last grim foe is conquered,  
And the final victory won;  
When the pearly gates swing open,  
And an entrance full and free  
Shall be granted to the victors, --  
Jesus, I'll go through with thee.

Let us pray,

Our heavenly Father,

Bless each listener of the broadcast  
in the way which they need most. Re-  
member those who are in prison and  
yet we realize that there are many who  
are free to walk about the streets who  
are also bound by the shackles of sin.  
They need your help and release also.  
Cause the word to find lodging in good  
and honest hearts and to thee we will  
give the praise through Christ our Lord.  
Amen

Thank you, friends, for taking time to  
listen. I hope you will tune in again  
next week at this same time for another  
short message brought to you by the  
Mission Trail of Guthrie, Okla. If you  
receive a blessing from the gospel, we

would be glad to hear from you. Would  
you take time to write us a letter and  
let us know of your interest in the things  
of God?

Here is a song, "We shall run and not  
be weary" as sung by the Carver Quar-  
tett.

Until we meet again this is Willie Mur-  
phey saying may God's richest bless-  
ings be with each of you and a very  
cheerful good-bye!

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### *Testimonies*

From Mo.: "Greetings in Jesus dear  
name. And it's so good to know the  
real Christ through the atoning blood.  
He is so good to me. I could praise  
Him with every breath then not praise  
Him enough. My health is even better  
today than it's been in 10 yrs., altho I  
have to take care of myself. . ."

--Mrs. Lillian Dinkens

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From Okla.: 'Yes, continue to send  
me the paper. It sure is encourage-  
ment to me. I thank the Lord for his  
word; 'Whosoever abideth in him sin-  
neth not.' God's word is the only guide  
I have. I believe the word. Pray for  
me to put God first in my life in every-  
thing. Pray for me. I have sinus in  
my head.'

--Lula Mixon

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From Okla.: "Just a note to say I still  
enjoy the little paper and the radio  
broadcast. I am still encouraged in  
the Lord. Seems like I realize more  
each day His goodness to me. Trust  
all there are well. The Lord has blessed  
us so far this winter. The children  
are doing just real well for which we  
thank God. I'm sending an offering to  
help out as needed. Will close for this  
time. Pray for me as I do you all  
there."

--Daisy Harris

From Ga.: 'I have been sick more than a year, came home here with my daughter and only child. . . my age is 87 years 9 months and 22 days old. I feel the Lord's hand touch as I trust my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ for everything . . . I have been an ordained minister since 1946 in the reformation. I am very encouraged to keep humbly at his feet. . . I did go and am willing to go right on until the crown is won. Oh, I enjoy the testimonies of the saints. . . pray that I get a mission here started.'

--Sis. Elizabeth McNair

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From Pa.: "Greeting you once again in the name of Jesus. Hope this finds you all well in soul and body and enjoying the good things of the Lord, which I believe you are. Still enjoying the Mission Trail paper. I am sending in some names I would like for you to add to your mailing list. . . I desire your prayers for the healing of my body of different things. I thank the Lord for what He has done for me. Truly I desire to please Him. May the dear Lord bless you each one and keep you encouraged to press on for Him. Christian love and prayers," --Avis Tinsley

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From Jamaica: "Please accept sincere greetings in the precious name of Jesus our King. I first have to say I'm sorry for not writing before. Let us wish you all a very prosperous new year in the work of the Lord and otherwise. Trusting that the work of the Lord will make mark progress among all the children of God this year. I (Sis. Ferguson) was very ill for two weeks in November. I trusted the Lord and praise be to His name we have proven Him the great healer once more. Then just after my recovery there was the busy season at the shop for the holidays, but the Lord helped us through. The memory of your visit is always

with us. Then getting the Mission Trail for our-selves make our contact more firm. I'm very glad for them. Whenever I start reading, how-ever weary I am, I have to finish before putting it away. They are very encouraging to me. I look forward getting them all the time. . . With God's richest blessings"

--Thomas and Vera Ferguson

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From Ill.: 'I greatly appreciate the message and the testimonies of the saints in the Mission Trail. I am isolated like I am. . . I am so thankful we do have preaching every second Sunday. Bro. Murphy Allen comes and preaches . . . I went the first of September to get new glasses. When my eyes were examined the doctor told me I have a little cataract on each eye. I ask you all to pray for me. . . and pray for my hard hearing. After I was told I have cataracts I was studying and praying. My hearing getting so bad. I thought--blind and deaf, oh, what that would mean. All at once the promises in the Bible one after another began coming to me. Then it came to me where it says all power is given to me in heaven and on earth. Well, my faith took hold. . . His word says if you abide in me and my word abide in you, you can ask what you may I will do it. I am abiding in the word of God, his word is abiding in me.'

--Sis. Lettie West

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From Ill.: ". . . we can never outgive the Lord. Has he not said 'give, and it shall be given unto you: good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over'. . . the more we give--the more is given unto us. . . There is something revolting about a stingy 'Christian'--something lacking. Jesus said 'Freely ye have received, freely give!' How gracious God has been to us in supply our need."

--Sis. Thelma Sprague

From S. C. : "I still have that deep settled peace within my soul, feel weak at times when alone and no one to pray with or talk about the Lord too, but when I think of Jesus and what He bore for me than I cry to the rock of ages hide thou me. Please pray for me."

--Sis. Minnie Winter

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From Ore. : "This finds us now at home after being gone for 2 mo., so sorry to be late with our coupon for the Mission Trail. We sure do enjoy it, so please keep it coming. It is food to our souls and we pass it on to sinners hoping it will get some help to them. We will appreciate your prayers. Hensel has diabetes. The Lord gave him a touch at the meeting down south but he still needs more. Our trust is in the Lord whatever he sees best for us. I also need prayer for my body".

--Bro. and Sis. Hensel Olson

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From Wisc. : "We are having a beautiful winter so far. It hasn't been any colder than 18 degrees below. Then it's nice and sunny. . . the snow sparkles like diamonds in the sunshine. We have about 18 inches. . . Well, must say the Lord did bless in many ways in the year of 70. We have a whole lot to be thankful for and I hope we will be able to be in some meetings this year before field work starts. That's usually the later part of April or 1st of May. Sometimes we read of meetings after they are over, in the Mission Trail. We'd like to know of some of the closer ones to us if at the right time. (I'm just hoping and praying.) It would sure seem good to have church services. I mean preaching services. But guess that's just wishful thinking. We surely couldn't get a preacher for a congregation of 4 adults. So we'll be thankful we can have Bible study twice a week."

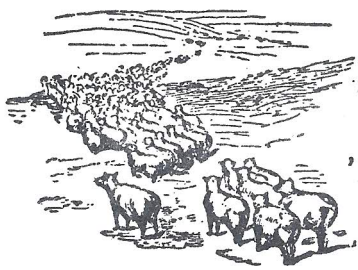
--Bro. and Sis. John LaVeau

From Ark. : "Now I'm beginning another year, in which, with the Lord as my shield and as the Psalm says, my rock and my fortress, my deliverer, my strength, my buckler, and my high tower, I hope to live for Him during this new year. With all this on my side, if God be for me, who can be against me? Surely He will be for me, if I keep myself for Him! He surely has been with me. . . At our service tonight we are going to study scriptures about that little word if. It should be quite interesting. I think Lou said she told you about our hopes for a little chapel. We know it is not impossible, even tho we are few, if God is with us in it. We have been thankful for the place where we have been allowed to meet, but it is going to need repairs, and upkeep would be expensive, and most people in the community who used to be interested in the building are no longer here. It seems it would be better to put our money into a chapel of our own than to try to keep up an old building, which is uncomfortable and hard to heat in cold weather anyway, and which after all, belongs to the entire community for whatever purpose they wish to use it. We are keeping this before the Lord and have started a building fund. . . The school board set a new 'dress code' this month which allows girl students and teachers to wear pant suits to school. It has been prohibited until now, but I suppose they were under public pressure to change the code to 'fit the times'. Some of the teachers have been wearing slacks suits since but a few of us don't. It causes one to wonder just how low standards can go. Thank the Lord for a few who help to hold to the higher standards!. . . I have enjoyed the Mission Trail broadcasts. The Bible's diary this morning could no doubt be the diary of a great many Bibles. . ." --Sister Ethel Worrall

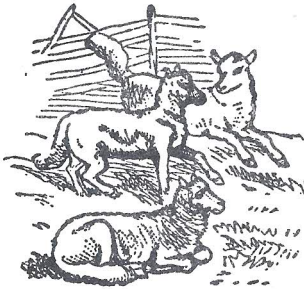
# Children's Page

READ THE BIBLE BY SYMBOLS.

Milk of



with fat of



and



of the breed of Bashan, and



with the fat of kidneys of



; and thou didst  
drink the pure  
blood of the



DEUTERONOMY xxxii. 14.

# at press time

we understand:

From Mo.: "Bro. Samons preached here Sunday night and last night and expects to be here tonight and tomorrow. Was at Neosho a few nights last week. A number of Neosho saints came last night. I always enjoy them coming. Don't get to see them very often."

--Sis. Lula Caughron

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The Lord has blessed the saints of Nowata, Okla. and made it possible for them to have a new chapel. The opening day is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 14. Starting time for Sunday school is 9:45 and the morning worship service is set for 11 o'clock. Afterward there will be a basket lunch served which, of course, is free to those in attendance. A special service in song will be held in the afternoon to begin at 2 o'clock. Plan to enjoy the fellowship of the saints and partake of their hospitality in Nowata, Okla. on this day. The chapel is located 2 blocks west of Bliss Cafe just off Highway 169. It is on the corner of Cedar and Fairview Sts. at 201 S. Cedar. For further information contact Bro. Clarence Fry, Box 145, Nowata, Oklahoma 74048.

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Bro. Donald Sharp informs me that they will not have their regular all day meeting in Coffeyville on the second Sunday in February. There will be Sunday school but unless there is a visiting minister preaching services will be dismissed in order to make it possible for those who desire to do so to attend the all-day services with the saints in Nowata, Oklahoma.

Sister Edith Robinson has a special prayer request concerning the drafting of her only son into service.

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Sis. Marie Miles wrote from Calif.: "Sis. LaVerne took me over to the home yesterday. It was wonderful to see all there. Sis. Georgia Zinn smiled and they said she seemed happier than she had been for a long time. . . She said, 'I'm afraid to turn my head for fear I'll lose sight of Jesus.' I had said, 'Isn't it wonderful to have Jesus with you.' She smiled when I talked about the glories of heaven. . . I was in meeting in Pomona for both services Sun. . . . Sis. Atha is better. . ."

--Sis. Marie Miles

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From Oakland, Calif.: "We hope to have our new meeting house to move in before long, and would be delighted to have you folks come and be with us a few nites. This is a very promising field and we are soliciting the co-operation of saints and ministers in spreading the gospel to those hungry souls. Many living in this area have pledged themselves to come and meet with us. Sis. Velma Smith is still in need of prayer as well as Sis. Graham and others. We have felt the prayers of the dear saints time and again as we all have been working on the building and raising the means to keep on a cash basis. The concerted effort has effected a wonderful blending together of the dear saints as we close ranks against Satan on every line of attack."

--Bro. Francis Doolittle



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
KGGF	Coffeyville, Kansas	690 kc.	Sunday, 8:00 a. m.
KCKW	Jena, Louisiana	1480 kc.	Sunday, 7:30 a. m.
WFPR	Hammond, Louisiana	1400 kc.	Sunday, 7:45 a. m.

**The Mission Trail**

Box 99

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Address Correction Requested

