



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing

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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THE MISSION TRAIL

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A Message to Parents

Radio Broadcast for week of May 7, 1972

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6. Good morning, friends. I am happy to be bringing you another short gospel message which I hope will prove a blessing. Did you notice the words of that verse? What do you think of that? How many years "outdated" do you consider that scripture? Do you really believe it will work? If you do, then perhaps you will bear with me a few moments as I give you some thoughts to accompany this verse.

"Train up a child in the way he should go:"—I really don't believe this is speaking primarily of the state or the school doing this training. Perhaps they might be a contributing factor but real moral and spiritual training should begin in the home and the parents are the first ones who should start it. Child training should begin the day it is born. A long time before is better. One aged saint put it this way, "Child training should begin twenty years before it is born!" You see, that would be starting with the parents, which is really not a bad suggestion.

But in an age of much civil and moral disobedience, perhaps it would be well if we could discover some of the reasons these things exist and take steps to prevent them in the future and yet unborn generations. I say, the reason so many "Delinquent children" get into trouble is because there have been some "delinquent parents." We may as well place the responsibility where it belongs. If the children had been given more specific and intensive training

while their minds were tender and willing to learn the right things, there would be less disrespect and disobedience existing today. Oh, for more "miracles of the age," set as beacon lights, in the form of truly Christian homes in this day! But as the Christian homes crumble, so does the nation. There is an old saying: "The hand that rocks the cradle, rules the world." I believe that, but the sad part of it is, so many of those hands have ceased to rock the cradle, and as a result crime and violence is widespread, robbery is the order of the day, in the absence of divine authority and disregard for the laws of the land.

The foundation for Godly living begins in the home. Parents should realize they are the examples and patterns as they set the standard for those young minds and hearts. Parenthood should be a three-way Partnership--father, mother, and God. Unity and harmony between them is very important. It has been declared that "Three months of wise parental training will do more to

determine the natural possibilities and tendencies of a child than three years of school after fourteen."

What we are is a great contributing factor as to what our children shall be. Brave parents with the tender love of a heavenly Father over them go hand in hand into the valley of the shadow and to them is given a child, a precious gift. Think of the responsibility which comes with this gift. Those who refuse to take the responsibility of parenthood miss much in life. Responsibility, did I say? Yes. Appalling ones! They bend the back and whiten the hair! But it is God's way. It is a sublime privilege to so work for and with Him. He is a good paymaster. He works exceedingly and marvelously in and through His obedient children. He provides all power and grace. He comforts and encourages and teaches. His smile is glory. His blessing, riches. Oh, think of the joy of going to Him at the end of life's brief day and saying to Him, "Behold I and the children which thou didst give me."

The school life of former years may have had its thrills, its adventures, its battles and victories, --but this home-school, this desperate determination to know and do and be just right, because there are immortal souls given into our keeping, whose destiny depends upon our training and influence because we brought them here--is a real challenge.

Oh, all the experiences of former years are not to be compared with this Christian home training which young parents are about to get. Much is at stake.

They should be like Judah when he was pleading for his younger brother, Benjamin: "For how shall I go up to my father, and the lad be not with me?"

I remember hearing a little saying on a certain broadcast station. They say it sometimes along about 12 O'clock at night. They say: "Do you know where your children are?"

Did you know the Bible is full of instructions and wisdom for parents? Like Hannah, we should make for our Samuel a little coat from year to year. Provisions should be made for a growing, developing, changing body, mind and soul. The atmosphere we create in the home helps to make the child. If there is confusion, quarreling and dissention, then look out for the influence on those young minds. If the parents cannot agree, then how should we expect those children looking on to be different? But if there is restful understanding, thoughtfulness and kindness--these basic principles are of great value. They cheer, encourage and inspire the child on to greater things.

Now a word about a mistaken idea--riches are not necessary for happiness. It is true finances are important, but if there are two devoted parents, with a vision, they will find a way for happy mealtimes and quiet evening talks where God is revered. The delicate plants of childhood will not thrive and develop and blossom as they should, in an atmosphere of harsh blame or criticism. Some one has said, "Nagging and fault-finding in the home are twin brothers to the jail and penitentiary."

Parents, watch for inconsistencies in your lives, for those boys and girls of yours are taking notice of your example. Children we might say, are a second edition of their parents. What we are, determines largely what they will be. Remember, you have this stewardship from God. You are responsible to Him. The name father is a name that should

be as sacred as mother. Think of a tragic situation where a father is too busy to spend time with his son--realizing too late that others have companioned with his son and left him a wreck in soul and body. Yes, we can say that we did our best--but did we really? We might have known how to do better.

Take for instance, farmers whose crops fail, and whose stock turns out scrubby and scrawny, do they just sit down and meekly starve? Do they weep and say that God is unjust, or their neighbors have failed them? What do they do in a case like that? Let me tell you--they pay out good money for books that will help them; they consult specialists and employ experts. They discern what is wrong and attend to the matter promptly. They gather strength and courage and set to work much harder and with increased knowledge. Faith in what they have learned by failure tells them it's not too late to redeem the crop or save the stock.

And does not the word of God and the laws of nature teach us the same thing--that we should be in earnest to see that we have well-trained, well-behaved, God-fearing sons and daughters who will go out from their home to be a blessing and an example of what God can do?

Perhaps after hearing this much, some will say, "Please be more specific. There are so many problems. Tell us what to do." Friends, it is true that I have mostly given you general principles. I know there are many problems, but I also know and can assure you God has the grace and wisdom to instruct you what to do in every decision. You will need that grace and understanding which comes from him only. The wisdom of God promises to give lib-

erally. His special help in answer to your prayer in every time of need, all of these will help you to become the master of the situation when it arises.

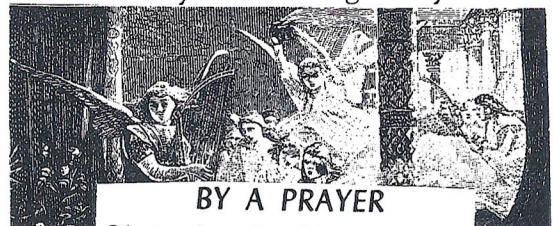
Let us pray.

Our father, we know we are living in an age when there is much disobedience, and ungodliness. Yet we are aware that God has the grace for every situation. Help and direct each of your people who are trusting in you for the wisdom and understanding to train their child in a right way, and thine shall be the praise and glory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Friends, would you like to hear more on this same subject next week? Do you think it is needed? Then be listening next week, same time, same station. If you would like to write us address your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla.

Here is a song "I Am So Glad". The singers are Lynn Carver, Arnett Carver, Troy Gentry, and yours truly Willie Murphey.

Until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying may God bless every one and a very cheerful goodbye!



BY A PRAYER

*Oh gracious Lord in Heaven,
You sit upon your throne;
I can't send you a letter
Or call you on the phone
To thank you for the blessings
You've given me each day;
Lord, there's been so many
In every precious way!
I can't send you a message
By a missile through the air;
The only way I'm sure of
Dear Lord, is by a prayer!*

Testimonies

From Texas: "Greetings in Christian love. Trust this finds each of you enjoying the blessings of the Lord both spiritually and otherwise. We are thankful for the good rain the Lord saw fit to give us, also for the healing touch to our body. When we patiently wait on the Lord He gives us the desires of our hearts... My neighbor told of going to a certain church and in the S. school lesson they were discussing "dispositions". One lady spoke up and said she didn't think any of them had a very good disposition until after that first cup of coffee in the morning. I'm glad my disposition can't be bought in the grocery store or drug store, aren't you?... May the Lord help me to be a brighter light and not neglect this wonderful salvation. Hope to see you at camp meeting, Lord willing."

--Sis. Edith Wall

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From Ky.: "Greetings to you in the precious name of Jesus, trusting this finds you in the best of health, and much encouraged in the Lord, for there are so many discouraging things coming up. Satan is working over time to get us discouraged, but I have settled it he will not discourage me... I can't do much, but thankful for what I can do. We have some pretty flowers, and enjoy watching the squirrels playing on the walnut trees at the lower end of our lot. No, praise God, life is never dull for a true child of God. We had two real bad rain storms the 15th. Some hail, and the water got up in our back yard--did not do much damage. I would love so much to be in some camp meetings this summer, yet I leave it all up to Him who doeth all things well. I am so glad for the Mission Trail. It is like sitting down and having a chat with some of the family... Oh yes, I am 74 years young."

--Sister Alpha Baldrige

HIS GUIDING HAND

So soon life's journey will be over
We'll leave this old world of cares
To dwell eternally with Jesus
In that home he's gone to prepare.

Oh Jesus, my Lord and my Saviour
While now in this low land we dwell
Be with us each moment we pray
That all with our souls may be well.

As you've trod the way before us
You know and will understand
The trials, temptations and heartaches
That come to us in this very low land.

Our souls cry out to our Saviour
To keep us, and lead us each day,
Protect us and keep us from evil
As we follow on in the narrow way.

Our enemy abroad in this low land
Is seeking for souls he may devour
We pray thy protection, Oh Saviour
Please keep us with all thy power.

--Dolly Williams

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From La.: "Dear Bro. Willie and family and saints there, just a few lines and to say I am happy in the Lord and Saviour and still gardening. It looks good--some young beans are coming on and some young tomatoes showing up, have a rain every week. I can say thank the good Lord. It shall bring forth its fruit in its season. May our God bless you all and the work there."

--Bro. J. M. Mitchell

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From Wash.: "Greetings in the name of our dear Saviour and redeemer. We thank him for his goodness and to us and we didn't deserve it. Praise him for his mercy. We are all well at this time--are having some nice weather. Surely do appreciate the little paper."

--Sister D. T. Thomas

at press time

we understand:

Bro. George Hammond made it safely back to Guthrie after his missionary trip to Mexico and also the northwest part of the country. We were glad to hear his report of this journey of more than 5,000 miles. The Lord had his protecting hand over him.

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In honour of the Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest A. Perkins their children request the pleasure of your company at a reception Sunday, the fourteenth of May, one to four o'clock, V.F.W. building, Sapulpa, Oklahoma.

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From Okla.: Greetings in dear name of Jesus. I hope and pray both of you feel fine, also trust all of you are well. ...I am still able to go and plant little garden and get my yard cleaned out. We had nice shower rain. It looks like we have some more rain today. We really did need it...I am wondering what kind president we will have this election. God alone knows. Things are already in a bad shape and don't seem to get any better. People are getting so far from God. They harden their hearts and stiffen their necks... Luke 13:3--'I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.' Psa. 43:1--'Judge me, O God, and plead my cause against an ungodly nation: O deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man.' Well, we surely do need men like Paul and John to go into all the world and preach gospel to every creature...they need God right here in our own country.'--Sis. Della Harrison

Bro. & Sis. Ted Bock and family were in Guthrie and helped with the work on the dining hall. Others have been spending considerable time there too, and yet much remains to be done. Campmeeting begins May 26th. This month!!

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From Ga.: "Greeting in the name of the Lord Jesus. I am well and trust you all are. I am working for my Lord. You all pray for me that I will grow strong each day."--Bro. James Green

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From Calif.: "Greetings of love in the name of our precious Lord, who gave himself a living sacrifice for us. I do find him more and more precious to my heart, and I must please him well in all things. I do appreciate his dealings, and workings, his love, mercy and compassion. Surely his will and being conformed to the image of Christ should, and must be uppermost in our lives. I do pray God's prospering on the work there and everywhere."

--Sister Bonnie Matthews

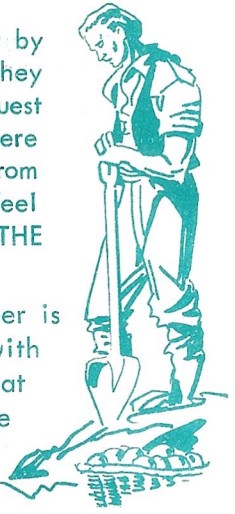
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Congratulations to all the high school graduates of '72. The following have sent us announcements: Neta Eck, R. 1, Box 71, Goltry, Okla. 73739; Terry Allen, R. 1, Box 161, Senath, Mo. 63876; Eldonna Rhoades, R. 1, Box 279, Myrtle, Mo. 65778; Phyllis Jewel Flynn, R. 1, Loranger, La. 70446. Frances and I are happy for our son, Willie Eugene, who doesn't think it necessary to send us an announcement. You see we have been working on his graduation for twelve years!!!



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.

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