



Gospel Broadcasting and Publishing
The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Willie C. Murphey • Frances 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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THE MISSION TRAIL

NOVEMBER, 1974

Seven Reasons for Thanksgiving

Radio Broadcast for November 3, 1974

"Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." Psalms 50:14-15. Good morning, friends. We are ever so thankful for the opportunity to come your way again by means of radio. When the month of November rolls around as it does so often, people begin to think about Thanksgiving. I hope you don't wait until then to be thankful. But when Thanksgiving is mentioned, then what do you think of? A big dinner with turkey, dressing, cranberries, pumpkin pies and all the other good things to eat which go with them?

Well, it is nice to have a good dinner and be able to enjoy it, but listen, there are more things for which you should be thankful:

We thank thee, Lord, for morning light
And for each day so clear and bright:
We thank thee for the noonday sun
And for the night when day is done.
We thank thee for the sky so blue,
And for the moon and stars too:
We thank thee much that while we sleep
The guardian angels vigil keep.

We thank thee for the Bible dear,
With messages of love and cheer,
And that it to the people still
Reveals thy precious, holy will.
We thank thee for the Savior kind
To heal the sick, the lame, the blind.
And that he shed his precious blood,
Redeeming our lost souls to God.

We thank thee for a home of love,
Where we shall dwell with thee above,
And for a bright and starry crown
When we shall lay our armor down.

Seven is often considered to be a perfect number, so I am going to give you seven reasons why I am thankful--

1. I am thankful that there is a God. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Gen. 1:1. It is his will that we should always give thanks to his name. "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." Col. 3:17. Listen now to the beauty of these words and think of the wonderful truth they declare: "O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy endureth for ever. O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy endureth for ever. To him who alone doeth great wonders: for his mercy endureth for ever. To him that by wisdom made the heavens: for his mercy endureth for ever. To him that stretched out the earth above the waters: for his mercy endureth for ever. To him that made great lights:

for his mercy endureth for ever: The sun to rule by day: for his mercy endureth for ever: The moon and stars to rule by night: for his mercy endureth for ever." Psalms 136:1-9. So I say I am thankful that there is a God and all he means to me.

2. I am thankful that God is holy and that he loves me. Psalms 30:4 puts it this way: "Sing unto the Lord, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness." Very little help and comfort would it be to know that God was high and holy with all this power, if he didn't condescend to me or if he didn't love and care for me.

3. I am thankful for God's mercy. Did you notice from that 136th Psalm how many times the end of the verse closed with this statement. "for his mercy endureth for ever"? So when you remember your weakness and need of God, just remember "that his mercy endureth for ever!"

4. I am thankful for the gift of Christ. 2 Cor. 9:15 mentions this: "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." This gift to the world was Christ himself. What a treasure this gift has been to men and women of all ages since his coming.

5. I am thankful for deliverance from sin. Romans 7:24 describes what a condition one is in who has not been delivered from sin. "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" Then the answer is given in part of the next verse and also the first verse of the 8th chapter. Listen: "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord... There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit."

6. I am thankful for victory over death and the grave. In speaking of the resurrection the writer of 1 Cor. 15:57 says: "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

7. Then I am thankful for food, clothing and the necessary things of life that pertain to the care of this body. Jesus knew these were necessary but he told us if we would seek the things of the kingdom of God first, all these other things would be added. "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Eph. 5:20.

So, I am thankful for every one of those things. Should there be something which is not included in this list of seven, I include them too. Listen: "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name." Heb. 13:15.

But may I remind you that with all of our blessings and pleasures come also responsibility. The more we have to enjoy, the more we are responsible to share our blessings with others. Think of those who do not have the freedom and liberty that we do in Christ. Can we do more to win them and share with them the truth?

So instead of complaining of your lot in life, why don't you thank God every morning when you get up that you have something to do that day which must be done, whether you like it or not. Being forced to work, and forced to do your best, helps bring temperance and self-control, diligence and strength of will, cheerfulness and contentment, and many other virtues which the idle never know. Listen--

THE THANKFUL HEART

For all that God in mercy sends--
 For health and children, home
 and friends;
 For comfort in the time of need,
 For every kindly word or deed,
 For happy thoughts and holy talk,
 For guidance in our daily walk--
 In everything give thanks!

For beauty in this world of ours,
 For verdant grass and lovely flowers,
 For songs of birds, for hum of bees,
 For the refreshing summer breeze,
 For hill and plain, for stream and wood,
 For the great ocean's mighty flood--
 In everything give thanks!

For the sweet sleep which comes with
 night,
 For the returning morning light,
 For the bright sun that shines on high,
 For the stars glittering in the sky--
 For these and every thing we see,
 O Lord, our heart we lift to Thee;
 In everything give thanks!

Let us pray:

Our Father, we are thankful for health
 and for the strength to bear the burdens
 of the day; for all the friends who have
 made our little world brighter and bet-
 ter for their presence. We are thank-
 ful that you have supplied our needs ac-
 cording to your riches in glory. We are
 thankful for all the glad voices we have
 heard and for all the glad yesterdays.
 For life we are thankful, with all that
 it means of service and sorrow; for the
 peaceful roof which shelters us, and for
 the love and laughter of our children.
 We are thankful for all the blessings
 which have come to us and for the pro-
 mise which the future holds. We are
 thankful for all which has made life so far
 a pleasant journey; for our book of happy

memories, and for that faith which has
 sustained us in the shadows. Grant, O
 God, that our lives our gratitude may
 show, May we continue to the end un-
 embittered, remembering always that
 the greater our loss appears, the great-
 er our joy has been. Grant us the wis-
 dom to know the false from the true,
 that we may bear our burdens bravely.
 Teach us to find pleasure in service,
 hope in sorrow, and peace when the day
 is done. Bless each listener of the
 broadcast in the way which they need
 most and thine shall be the praise
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Testimonies

From Ark.: "We are having such lovely
 fall weather, and the leaves are falling
 fast. Soon the trees will be bare, but
 we can then look forward to their new
 beauty in the spring. "The harvest is
 past, the summer is ended," and aren't
 we happy that we don't have to add "and
 we are not saved!" I have worked out-
 side quite a lot and still have more to
 do. But it is too nice outside to stay
 in anyway... We are studying the book
 of St. John now in Bible study Wednes-
 day nights. This was Lee Ann's sug-
 gestion. We are ready for chapter 11
 next Wednesday. We are so thankful
 for Lee Ann. She has deepened down
 so much spiritually for her age. She is
 a very serious-minded young lady..."

--Sis. Ethel Worrall

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From Okla.: "Just a line to say I en-
 joy The Mission Trail. I don't get to
 hear it, but I enjoy reading it 2 or 3
 times. I love the Bible way, and pray
 you can continue the good work... I lost
 my wife the 11th of Feb. She died sud-
 denly. I miss her very much, but the
 Lord has wonderfully blessed, making
 the impossible possible for which I am
 very thankful."

--Ernest Christ

GUTHRIE--It's been a long time since I wrote you a letter!...I'm so thankful the Lord directed in our lives so we could become acquainted and get to know these real saints of God. It was about mid-October, 1937 that the Lord saved me and gave me a "go through" experience. Oh! that was the most wonderful and most important thing that ever happened to me! I can't begin to picture my life if I had never been born again! I'm so thankful for the satisfying portion God has given me. I thank Him for his grace that truly has been sufficient! He has always been a present help in time of need! As that old song goes, "through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come. 'Twas grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home!" The longer I serve the Lord, the sweeter his grace is to me! I thank God for it! It has kept me out of sin and trouble many times. We want to send our greetings and love to all the saints out in Mission Trail land, and especially to the dear ones we left behind in Illinois. I doubt there is a day that we do not think of, and pray for you! Keep your hand in God's and press on. The prize is before us. Heaven will be worth more than all this whole world could ever offer. I thank God for our sure hope! One that fadeth not away. Every day brings us one step closer, and some of us may be very near the end, so let us take new courage and lift up our heads, for our redemption draweth nigh!" --Thelma Sprague

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From W. Va.: "Here I am again hoping and praying others will come in for the services...It is raining today...Keep praying for me and the work here and that the folks get back safe from their vacation. When I take my vacation, (don't know when it will be) but I'll not come back. When I get to heaven, I'll never want back." --Sis. Flora Hinzman

From La.: "With sorrow I report the passing of my dear husband, Alex C. Johnson August 22, 1974 with a heart attack. We went to meeting the last 4 nights he lived. I think we had been home from meeting about 2 1/2 hours when he passed. It was a great loss and sorrow to his family, 7 sons and 2 daughters. We can surely rejoice because he repented of his sins and would read his Bible in prayer meeting and looked forward for time to go. My health is bad and I am left alone as all of the children are married. I sure do need the prayers of the saints. I can't drive and sold my car. I can read my Bible and live for God until God calls me home to be with him. My children sure have been wonderful...I will say bye..."

--Sis. Beulah Johnson

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From Okla.: "Greetings dear ones, in Jesus name...I just got a kettle of tomatoes on to cook to can, so while they cook thought I'd get you a few lines written. The Lord has been so good to us this summer and fall. We do love and praise him. We have had some very great trials to go through but the Lord knows all things, the thoughts of our hearts and our desire to serve him and our love for him...He stood by, gave grace and strength for our need. Husband raised plenty of nice garden. We have real nice tomatoes, turnips, carrots, parsnips and green lima beans yet. We have shelled and frozen quite a few of the limas...two or three Sundays our old radio wouldn't get a thing, so we couldn't get you on the radio...We doubly appreciated the Mission Trail when we couldn't get you on radio. We enjoy every one of the singers, but I especially appreciated hearing the Loftis sisters I believe was their names. We pray this finds you both and family well and fighting the battle with faith believing."

--Sister Doris Bowers

From Michigan: "We pray that all is well there. Ether still keeps gaining in body. She does most of her household work. Wife and I canned 100 qts. of tomatoes and made about 20 qts. juice, also 15 or 18 qts. grape juice. I am in fair health. Bro. and Sister William A. McCoy came and got Ether and me and took us to Garrett, Ind. meeting that they and Bro. and Sister Samons were holding there. We stayed for 3 night services... The 3 services there at Garrett were the only ones we ever were in of the evening light saints services, so we certainly did enjoy being there in the saints meetings. Bro. and Sister Clarence Brant comes by now and then to see us, also Bro. and Sister Ralph Wilkins comes some also. We certainly do enjoy the saints visits. We got a card from Delmar and Brenda Wilkins stating that a daughter was born to them... will say bye for this time."

--Bro. and Sister Floyd Hines

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Colo.--"May God's richest blessings rest upon you. I had your good letter a few days ago and it was good hearing from you. We have never met Bro. Tocholke but his son and daughter-in-law came through here last summer and spent the night with us. At this time I am having quite a bit of trouble with my leg. I fell and hurt it 9 days ago on the shin and bruised it badly. So I ask an interest in your prayers and I still have a constant battle with my asthma. However, I feel God has been so good to me. It gets lonely sometimes with my husband being gone now, but the Lord cares."

--Sis. Mary Wollert

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From Pa.: "We greet you this wonderful morning in the lovely name of Jesus... Truly I'm so thankful for all that the Lord has done for me, and my soul rejoices in the Lord today... Your sister in the Lord,"

--Sister Agnes Gaston

From Ark.: "It has been quite a while since I wrote you, not because I have forgotten you folks, but just neglected to write. I enjoy the messages over the air when I can get it and also enjoy reading the good testimonies of the dear saints, makes me hungry to get closer to the Lord and have more patience in suffering and afflictions. I hardly ever get to be with the saints... I haven't got to go to meeting in over 3 years. Oh, I would be so thankful to have some good Christian saints to come and live with me so we could read the Bible and have good Christian fellowship together in my last days... I can do but very little of my housework but I am able to wait on myself for which I thank the Lord... I have good neighbors... remember me and mine in your prayers."

--Sis. Katie Dotson

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From Kansas: "This month has gone especially fast. It is surely beautiful October weather. I love to see the beautiful scenes and pleasant things to look upon and the beautiful flowers to see and smell and even made the cattle to give their life for man's needs. Surely God loved us when he created all these things just for man's necessities and desires and made everything beautiful for us and set us in Dominion over all the creation. Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Even the trees clap their hands and the birds raise their heads as they sing and look toward heaven and the creator of all the earth."

--Sis. Wildenna Huffman

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From W. Va.: "We are so thankful for what the Lord has done for us. It would be impossible to write the many blessings and answers to prayer. He sure is a friend in every time of need... We are so thankful for how the Lord is adding a few at a time to our congregation."

--Karen Lambert

From Minn.: "Hope everything is fine at your house. We are all well and encouraged in the Lord. We just had some wonderful meetings here in Hinckley. Bro. & Sis. Kenneth and family, the Donald Eck family and Bro. Kenneth's folks were here. The saints from Wisc. were able to be here for some of the meetings and what a wonderful time we had in the Lord. It's so good to meet with the saints. My sister Erna got saved. How we rejoice with her... These meetings surely gave us opportunities to really search our hearts and the Lord had something for everyone. Yes, there is work to do. By God's grace and the Lord helping me I will seek to do what he wants me to do. There is so much that needs to be done."

--Sis. Lydia Berglund

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From Oregon: "Just a few lines as I am enclosing an offering to help in the mailing the ... "Mission Trail"... I see a letter from Bro. Andrew Senti. I first got acquainted with him back in either in 1951 or 2 when old Bro. Martin Olson pastored the Minneapolis, Minn. congregation ... I traveled with Sis. and Bro. Olson at that time... He made us so welcome in his home. The Olsons parked their trailer house in his backyard. I am so thankful to be able to say I am much better of the severe aches and pains of arthritis and the extreme weakness it caused in my body. We are praying earnestly for you and the work you are doing for souls. I do so enjoy the Mission Trail."

--Sis. Allis King

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From Ga.: "Dear Brother Murphey, this to say holy greeting to you and family. We are well only my eyes are a little dim. Pray for them please. Hope you all are well. I still enjoy reading the paper. I am still on the Lord's side." --Bro. Friendly Green

From Penna.: "Trust this finds all well out there. My breathing hasn't been as well lately but seems I can see a difference in the fall of the year. I seem to feel some better now, thank the Lord. I thank the Lord for blessing us to be able to go to the Monark Springs camp-meeting this year, and from there on to your place, and having a nice meal in your home... We still enjoy the Mission Trail paper and may the Lord bless you in your little humble place of work there. I am encouraged to live for the Lord and wouldn't exchange Him for the world. This old sinful world doesn't have anything good to offer precious souls... Remember us in prayer when you think of us."

--Sis. Avis and Earl Tinsley

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From Calif.: "So thankful we can report victory in our souls. We confess the Lord is very good to us. We surely love him with all our hearts and desire above all things to please him with our lives. It's been a while since we wrote but we have been enjoying reading the little paper. Guess you have had a busy summer! We haven't gone much this year. Bro. Gene hasn't been well and the trips would have been too much for him. The Lord has blessed us from time to time in answer to prayer in his body. We went to Pacoima meeting, had to leave on Tuesday but the meeting was good from the first day and I understand until it was over. Also we went for the last part of Fresno. It was good also... We did miss attending the meetings back east this year and getting to see all the saints... God is getting his church ready for his coming. If we were ever stirred we must be now... May God bless his people to be in readiness when he comes. Trust you both are well. We would like to see you. Christian love and prayers,"

--Bro. & Sis. Gene Harmon

at press time

we understand:

HINCKLEY, MINN. MEETING

"We had a good meeting while there. Four were saved (3 children and young people and one daughter of Bro. Tocholke's). We had an ordinance service the last Sunday of the meeting. Sis. Tocholke hadn't been privileged to be in one for years and she seemed to receive a blessing." --Cynthia Eck

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Announcement is made that there will be no all-day meeting at Grubbs, Ark. on the first Sunday of December. Road and sewer line work is being done.

--Sister Opal Bradley

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OREGON--"Please thank each one who sent cards or offerings of sympathy to the family of Emma Busch. We stayed over night before the service and a short time after the committal so we don't know how many acknowledgement cards were sent out --as many as possible tho...since mother Busch passed on I find letters more difficult to write. We're just so thankful she didn't linger longer and suffer more. We know so many will miss her letters. When some special problem came up I'd write and ask her to especially remember one of our children in prayers. They are grown up now..."--Doris & Bill Busch

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NEOSHO, Mo. -- "Our 4th Sunday all day services will be omitted during November and December on the account of the assembly meetings at Hammond, La. and the Guthrie meeting. We'll continue all day service in January."

--Bro. T. V. McMillian

From Calif.: "Still remember us in prayer...Also remember my twin sister as she is getting so feeble she can't make her feet move at times."

--Sister Edith Wittenborn

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From Okla.: "My young days are going. I am now 89. I have gone through a lot. The Lord gives me strength...I carry a heavy load on my heart. My 3 boys are not saved at this writing...Pray much for my sons." --Sis. Susie Berg

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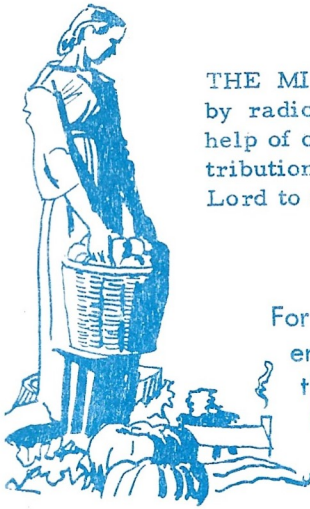
"Remember Prudie -- once again. She has had a bad week with suffering in her arms. The Lord gave her a touch, but she needs lots of prayer. Remember all of us," --Vicki Taylor

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Late last month Frances and I made a trip into the East, stopping with the Akron saints one night, two nights with Kalamazoo saints and we were in all-day meeting on fourth Sunday in Dayton. It is wonderful to see the saints in these areas pressing on for truth and right. Their hospitality is much appreciated.

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In the early morning hours of Sunday, November 3, it seemed as if the fountains of the deep had been broken up and the swirling, gushing muddy waters of the Cottonwood river overflowed their banks as they have so often done before. Prior warning was given and some preparations were made in dining hall and chapel before the flood waters swept through them, leaving behind considerable damage and loss as well as much work in clean-up operation.



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THE MISSION TRAIL, Guthrie, Oklahoma 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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