



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

DECEMBER, 1975

The Gospel Alphabet, Chapter Three

F is for FORGIVENESS and G is for GROWTH

Radio Broadcast for November 23, 1975

Good morning, friends. I am glad to be coming your way again by means of radio. Today we are continuing the gospel alphabet. First, this scripture: "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." Matt. 6:9-15.

This is certainly a common and familiar scripture, but there are some deep truths hidden therein, especially for those who do not perceive spiritual values. Therefore, let me hasten to say that:

F is for FORGIVENESS. Oh, the beauty of forgiveness, and the joy it brings. I know the prodigal son must have felt a deep sense of joy when he was forgiven and taken back into his father's arms. Think of what it would be like if God had no forgiveness for mankind! But divine love generates forgiveness. Joseph had been abused and mistreated by his brothers who were envious of him. They had sold him into slavery. In Potiphar's house he had been the object of a lustful, vengeful woman who told lies on him, which was the cause of him being sent to prison. Joseph could have developed a harsh and unforgiving attitude, but instead I want you to listen to these words when his first

son was born: "And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh: For God, said he, hath made me forget all my toil, and all my father's house." Gen. 41:51. That was victory and forgiveness!

He enjoyed freedom right at its source, freedom within from God. So he was free to ascend the ladder of success and he did. Now he was the second ruler of the fabulous and wealthy land of Egypt. God was with him for he had a forgiving spirit.

It is said that to err is human but to forgive is divine! How true. We are subject to mistakes and miscalculations. So first of all we need forgiveness from God. Listen: "Our Father which art in heaven... forgive us our debts" Matt. 6:9-12. And secondly, we need forgiveness from others: "... as we forgive our debtors" Matt. 6:12. Then thirdly, we need forgiveness of self--"Forgetting

those things which are behind" Phil. 3:13. Paul forgave himself and reached forth for the things which were ahead.

The way to judge what is in a man's heart is to see what fruit it produces in his dealings with others. "The tree is known by its fruits." Matt. 12:33. If your profession does not have roots deep enough to reach God and show forth his attribute of forgiveness then it is too shallow to be worth very much! To have an understanding heart enlarges one's capacity for God. Jesus prayed: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." Luke 23:34. To have mercy is a virtue of great value... "Then the Lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt." Matt. 18:27. In teaching Peter forgiveness -- "Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven." Matt. 18:22. In other words, that is almost to the point of infinity!

Forgiveness is like the sandal tree that perfumes the axe which cuts it down. "Bless them that curse you, and do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you." Matt. 5:44. And another verse: "For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive" Psalms 86:5.

Really, it is an honour and glory to the mistreated person to forgive. "The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression" Proverbs 19:11. A godly person must learn to forgive and bury the past. Realizing how much we need forgiveness from God should cause us to be more tolerant and forgiving toward others. Also an awareness that God will not forgive us unless we forgive others, encourages us to be more God-

like. Take a stroll through the cemetery and notice that the young and old rest there together. The rich and the poor share an equal amount of space. How quickly it should cause one's pride to vanish!

G stands for GROWTH! The law of God and nature demands that we keep growing or die! When things stop growing they begin to die! This is so true of plant life, animals, humans, businesses and nations. If we don't move forward we begin to decay! The life of growth from childhood to manhood involves replacing outgrown clothing; and getting bigger sizes. Most good things are obtained at the expense of giving up the old. So is the growth of God's children. There is the giving up of false impressions, and the doctrines of men for the Word of the Lord and a more perfect understanding thereof. Let us lay aside the weights as we grow into the deeper things of God.

I am reminded of the lesson Ezekiel learned when he was brought to the waters flowing from under the house. Listen: "And when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, he measured a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the waters were to the ankles. Again he measured a thousand cubits, and he brought me through the waters; the waters were to the knees. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through; the waters were to the loins. Afterward he measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over." Ezekiel 47:3-5. So, I am convinced we will never learn it all. But there is growth for every one regardless how long we may have been in the way!

Happy people are those who are continually growing! It is reported when Longfellow was old someone asked him how it was that he was able to keep so vigorous and write so beautifully. Pointing to a tree clothed in blossoms the aged poet replied: "That apple tree is very old, but I never saw prettier blossoms upon it than those it now bears. The tree grows a little new wood every year, and I suppose it is out of that new wood that those blossoms come. Like the apple tree, I try to grow a little new wood every year."

Now, for some more scriptures on growth. Listen: "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." 1 Pet. 2:2. Jesus had a very unusual growth. When he was only twelve years of age he astounded the doctors and lawyers. "...and Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." Luke 2:52. How is your growth progressing?

To the Thessalonians Paul wrote: "Your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth." 2 Thess. 1:3. God intended we should grow stronger and stronger. Here is the verse for that: "The righteous also shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger." Job 17:9.

The penalty for not growing and producing is to be cut down. "Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?" Luke 13:7.

Our Father, we are thankful that we have forgiveness from thee. Help us

to be ready to forgive others who may trespass against us. Grant that we may grow in the rich graces of knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. Bless each listener in the way which they have most need and thine shall be the praise for we ask it in Jesus name. Amen.

Thanks, friends, for a few moments of your time. If you would like to write us please do so by addressing your letter to The Mission Trail, Guthrie, Okla. We hope our visit may prove a blessing to you and if so, we would be happy to hear from you... Until we meet again, this is Willie Murphey saying God bless and keep you always and a very cheerful goodbye!

HIS BIRTH!

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." -- Luke 1:21-23.

Omnipresent

He was just a little lad, and on the Lord's day was wandering home from Sunday school, and dawdling on his way. He scuffed his shoes into the grass; he found a caterpillar; he found a fluffy milkweed pod and blew out all the "filler." A bird's nest in the tree o'erhead, so wisely placed and high, was just another wonder that caught his eager eye.

A neighbor watched his zig-zag course and hailed him from the lawn, asked him where he had been that day and what was going on.

"Oh, I've been to Sunday school." (He carefully turned the sod and found a snail beneath it.) "I've learned a lot of God."

"M'm, a very fine way," the neighbor said, "for a boy to spend his time. If you'll tell me where God is, I'll give you a brand new dime."

Quick as a flash his answer came, nor were his accents faint. "I'll give you a dollar, Mister, if you'll tell me where God ain't."

Testimonies

From La.: "Thank the Lord for another beautiful day and a portion of reasonable health, as well as many, many other things. I have surely been a long time getting at this. I thank Him for allowing us to serve and trust the Lord for all things. Pray that we may learn to live and serve him even better as we go along. Seems that we do make many mistakes and have trials all the time. But we must not be discouraged... We still have some unspoken requests and also for many of our loved ones. Many of them do know about the way in which we are taught and have been taught by their elders but some how are carelessly going on in the worldly way. We do enjoy the Mission Trail program almost every Sunday and pray that you will be able to keep it on."

--Sis. Pearl W. Bailey

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From La.: "Greetings in Jesus precious name, the dearest friend on earth. He is a friend to the friendless and we have found Him to be a very present help in time of trouble. We thank Him this morning for His great love and mercy toward us. Thankful to be saved, and sanctified, and satisfied in this strait and narrow way. We are happy to always receive the Mission Trail paper and trust the Lord will bless you dear ones for your labors in His service. Please keep the little paper coming to us. We are also thankful for the messages on the radio and pray the Lord will continue to bless in this work also. We trust this finds all of you well and happy in the work of the Lord. We are feeling very well for which we do thank the dear Lord. Sis. Juanita Didio is very sick with erysipilus and needs a healing touch. Remember her in prayer."

--Sis. Effie Miller

From Kansas: "Dear Brother Murphey, I have never written you before, tho my intentions were to write, but good intentions will never get one to heaven if they...do not do something about it... This morning you talked about the San Francisco earthquake. I was six years old when it happened and remember so much talking about it and so many pictures in the papers...I do enjoy your message very much..."

--Mrs. J. E. Estopy

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From Mich.: "Trust you folks are well in body and encouraged to press on for the Lord. We surely do appreciate and are thankful for God's gracious love and mercy towards us, to save and sanctify our hearts and put us on the highway of holiness. How precious to be one of God's children and be lead and guided by Him. We want you to know that we enjoy the Mission Trail. And of course, want you to continue to send it our way. Enjoyed the message on our A-B-C's for Christian living...When you think of us please pray that God will help us to be lead by His Spirit and stay in the narrow way. For surely we want to make Heaven our home at the end of our life down here...Christian love,"

--Bro. Ralph, Sis. Dorothy Wilkins

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From W. Va.: "Sorry we haven't written for so long. It's so easy to put off writing and the time seems to be rushing by so fast. God has blessed us with the privilege of being in several meetings this past summer. Also we got to visit each of our children that lives in other states. We enjoy the Mission Trail very much with the good messages and testimonies it brings. I thank the Lord for the good messages we get by the printed page and also the ones I'm privileged to hear from the pulpit...Please pray for our unsaved children..."

--Cecil & Erma Clevenger

From Okla.: "Dear Bro. Willie, 'Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints; That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowleging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother.' Philemon 1:3-7. I just finished reading your paper, and was thinking of the blessing many saints are getting by your labor of love, I put the paper down and opened my Bible to the above scriptures. Truly 'the bowels of the saints are refreshed by thee, brother,' and I am one of them. I was meditating only today of the many false teachers, and preachers, filling the air waves with all kinds of lies, false teaching and doctrines. Most are there for filthy lucre's sake, and propagate their own cause making a commercial business from God's holy word... Yes, God still has a few honest, true, and faithful who will not compromise to men or the devil. So, from all of us, thanks, and God bless you and yours. Yes, we enjoy the Mission Trail. Keep it coming." --Bro. Dadie J. Moore and family

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From La.: "I am so thankful for the goodness and mercies of God, and the way he helps me each day; and I want to do what little I can to be a help to some one else ... I enjoy the Mission Trail and want it to keep coming my way, so please keep my name on your mailing list. We are looking forward to a good assembly meeting... Pray that the Lord will work and much good will be accomplished throughout the meeting. There are many that are not well in body..."

--Sis. Maurie Lea

From Ohio: "A few lines as have been thinking of you often, felt like we should let you know we still love the Lord and are trying to live for Him. He is surely a precious Savior, He has been answering prayers and we feel so unworthy. We had some request prayer for our little 3 yr. old at the campmeeting this summer. He cracked a bone in his leg, had 2 casts put on and taken off which was quite an ordeal for him. He limped all summer. We were so burdened about it as our older boy has quite a handicap and we were so thankful for a healthy baby. Well, bless the Lord it has been around 2 weeks now that he has been walking normally. We truly thank the Lord for this... Our hearts desire is to live for Him... We surely enjoy the Mission Trail." --John and Della Gutwein

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THE MISSION TRAIL

May God, the words,
From your program take,
And use to His own glory;
As from the Bread of Life, you break.

May your words of courage,
Many a lovely heart fill,
May they somehow cheer up a heart,
That has long grown chill.

May they be a source,
Of some spiritual revival,
For only God's words,
Will stand the test of survival.

The songs are a source of joy,
They touch many a heart dear;
Their heavenly music,
Brings sunshine, hope, and cheer.

And your words of encouragement,
Yes, are an enlightenment to me,
But I will be most happy,
When your face I shall see.

--Bro. Dadie Jay Moore

From Pa.: "Greetings of love in the precious name of Jesus, the only name given whereby we can be saved. God is so good to us all. We are unworthy and undeserving of all his wonderful goodness and the multitudes of his tender mercies. We know we cannot thank or praise him enough. It is like that song if I had ten thousand lives to praise him I could not praise him enough, and also his love is like the boundless sea it cannot be fathomed. And then to think that in him we live and move and have our being. The very breath we breathe he must give us. We are fully dependent on God. God sees best; it is not always a bed of roses, and sunshine. The Psalmist says before I was afflicted I went astray and now I have kept thy law. He deals in love for he does not want any to be lost. In the Old Testament we read how God delivered his children out of all their distresses when they called on God for help. . . In Deut. 11:26--"Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse; A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the Lord your God, which I command you this day: And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known." Man is prone to have his way. We enjoy receiving the Mission Trail. I look forward to read The Gospel Alphabet, also the testimonies, even though I haven't met but a few of the dear saints. We desire your prayer that we live pleasing and acceptable in God's sight. We know God's thoughts and ways are so much higher than our thoughts and ways. May God richly bless all his dear children in these perilous times. My prayer is God help us to watch and pray. We need each prayer."

Love and prayer,

--Sis. Cora Slifer

From Mo.: "Greetings in Jesus name, the one that holds the universe in his hands. This finds me still striving to enter in. My throat and neck has been worrying me for some time. . . I desire the prayers of all the saints to pray much for me. I want to trust the Lord to the end of the way. I was reading in 2 Tim. this morning: "For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us". I want to reign with him. I don't want to deny him. . ."

--Sis. Howard Boulden

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From Oregon: "Greeting in the precious name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. I haven't done much writing to you, but do read your little paper when it comes and want it to keep coming. We had a good Assembly meeting. . . Bro. Carver and Bro. Dan Kroker were the only outside ministers, but our local ministers took part too, including the two young men, Mancil Doolittle and Jimmy Linch. Jimmy gave a stirring exhortation that brought several young people to the altar for saving grace. We also enjoyed the Evening Light singers for 2 days."

--Sis. Hilda A. Nielsen

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From La.: "We are very thankful today for all of the blessings of the Lord to us today. We trust you are both doing well. We wanted to let you know that we still enjoy the Mission Trail--on paper and also, over WFPR in Hammond. Please keep us on your mailing list and may the Lord supply all of your needs."

--Doyle and Cynthia LaCroix

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From Mo.: "Enclosed is our offering for November--the Thankful month. I wonder how many pieces of paper it would take to list all of our praise and blessings. . . Pray for us here."

--Vicki Taylor

at press time

we understand:



Mary and Wayne Murphey

Our son Wayne and Miss Mary Sprague were married Nov. 29, 1975 in Guthrie Church of God chapel. We pray heaven's blessings may be theirs. Mailing address for those who would like to write them: Box 314, Guthrie, Okla. 73044

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From Minn.: I'm writing to tell you that my beloved husband, Elmer, passed away suddenly on Sunday morning, Nov. 16, with a heart attack. He had just celebrated his 65th birthday the night before. Many times he had witnessed that he was ready to meet the Lord anytime he called him, and in my heart I truly believe he is with the Lord. We as his family will sadly miss him, but we have to believe it was God's will. And God will give us strength to carry on. I pray God will give me the strength to bear this sorrow and grief. Pray for us." --Mrs. Elmer Olson, 2009 E. Oakland Ave., Austin, Minn. 55912.



And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day, in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

... And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Luke 12: 10, 11 and 20

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From Calif.: "Please keep the little Mission Trail coming to our home. We appreciate and enjoy it very much. Would like to correct a mistake I made on mother Annie McKinney's age. She was born Nov. 23rd 1878. So that would make her 97 instead of 98. Lord willing will be going up to wish her a happy birthday. It looked like I was trying to help her reach 100 quicker."

--Sister Lucille Allen

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After Bro. Junior Sorrell had suffered much the heavenly Father saw best to call him to his eternal home, Nov. 21. Pray the Lord to comfort Sis. Doris in this time of sorrow.

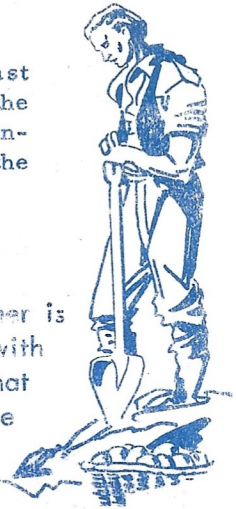
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AGAIN, thanks to all who have made it possible for The Mission Trail to remain on the air and be received through the mail another year! If you have not written us this year or requested your name remain on our mailing list be sure and do so at once. We wish for all a very joyful holiday season and a happy and prosperous new year!



THE MISSION TRAIL, originating in Guthrie, Okla., is broadcast by radio and published in printed form by Willie Murphey with the help of others. Its principal support comes from the free will contributions of its listeners and readers. Those who are led by the Lord to assist may do so by sending their offering to:

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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