



The Mission Trail

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Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Willie C. Murphey • Frances E. Murphey •

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THE MISSION TRAIL

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The Gospel Alphabet, Chapter Six

L stands for LOVE and M is for MEDITATION
Radio Broadcast for February 15, 1976

Good morning, friends. I am happy for the privilege to once again come your way by means of radio. Such a wonderful opportunity to speak for our Lord and Saviour. Today we are back on our subject of the Gospel Alphabet. Our next letter is L and what else could it stand for more than LOVE? "For God so loved the world, that he gave. ..." Love is powerful and motivating. Now listen to the scripture:

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." 1 Cor. 13:1-3.

That is what love will do for a person. It will work for the benefit of others. A real Christ-like character is founded on the principle of love. The basic commandments in the Bible concern it. "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment." Matt. 22:37-38. The second commandment involves love also. "And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Matt. 22:39. In fact, 1 Pet. 2:17 says, "Love the brotherhood." So any person or religion which professes to love God when it hates one of His creatures in the image of God, is out of harmony with God. It is deceptive. "If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his

brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?" 1 Pet. 4:20.

How could we ever enumerate all the powers of love? It is the quality which makes one more like God, for "God is love." Since this is true then "He that loveth not, knoweth not God" 1 John 4:8. But, in reality love begets love. "We love him, because he first loved us" 1 John 4:19. And oh, the understanding and compassion that love brings. "And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins." 1 Pet. 4:8.

Let me point out an example of this, exemplified in the life of David. His son Absalom was perverted and hatred had filled his heart. He had hatred for

his father and love for himself. He wanted to be king so he led a revolution against his father. Listen to what David told his officers: "Deal gently for my sake with the young man, even with Absalom." 2 Sam. 18:5. The reason he told them this was because he loved him. And when Absalom was killed listen to David again: "And the king was much moved, and went up to the chamber over the gate, and wept: and as he went, thus he said, O my son Absalom, my son, my son!" 2 Sam. 18:33. I would say he loved his son, even though this boy was trying to overthrow him. Love moved his heart.

How can we fulfill Ephesians without love, for it says: "Forbearing one another in love." The sweetest joys are found in loving and in being loved. Did you ever see a person happy while he was hating?

Love will keep us from striving for the last word. It will give us courtesy for others. "Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil" 1 Cor. 13:4-5.

The Bible speaks of "labor of love", so it will give us energy to work for God and souls. Love also makes one calm amidst the struggles of life. And surely "Love worketh no ill to his neighbor." Romans 13:10. And this brings me to a poem which I heard Bro. Ostis Wilson give. Let me pass it along to you:

JUST FORGET IT

If you've not been treated right,
Just forget it.
Don't get ready for a fight,
But forget it.

Life's too short to hold a grudge,
'Twill your happiness besmudge,
Anyway you're not the judge,
So forget it.

If you've been misunderstood,
Just forget it.
Say, "I did the best I could."
Then forget it.

If you don't have your own way,
Don't be small enough to say,
"Well, I guess I just won't play."
But forget it.

If somebody slanders you,
Just forget it.
Say, "I'm glad it isn't true."
Then forget it.

Even if you lose a friend,
And the breach you cannot mend
It will pay you in the end,
To just forget it.

So indeed, love does work. Try it.

M stands for MEDITATION. It means to contemplate; to ponder; to intend; to plan; to dwell in thought; to muse; to reflect. This is one of the most essential conditions of a successful and happy life!

Now at the very outset of this advice let me be quick to say I am not advocating some idolatrous form of transcendental meditation where incense is burned to some ancestor while a chant of heathen worship is offered to an idol of some sort. That is where most any type of thought is allowed to enter the mind and control the being. No, this is not of God. For the scriptures say, "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;" 2 Cor. 10:5. So the type

of meditation necessary to maintain a Christ-like life is one of guarded thoughts and imaginations.

But on with our thought. Listen: "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night." Psalms 1:1-2. Again: "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer." Psa. 19:4. Meditation will help a person to: "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life" Proverbs 4:23. So one is no better than his thoughts, for again the scriptures tell us "as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." Prov. 23:7. Surely there is power in the mind and thoughts. That is all the more reason why it should be guarded with such care. Sometimes God will allow a person to pass through deep waters of sickness and disaster in order that they may have more time to meditate and think. They are drawn closer to God and his will. Listen: "Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established." Prov. 4:26.

Meditation helps to keep one balanced. Since man cannot have everything, he must choose and decide that which is most important to him. Joshua said: "Choose you this day whom ye will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" Joshua 24:15. It has been said "decision is half the battle." That is important. Of course, decision is not everything and action must follow, but meditation helps one to make a wise choice. Halting between two opinions is what kills. The direction of the ship is not determined by the way the wind blows but according to the

set of the sails.

Oh, how much rashness and how many foolish decisions one would be saved from, if they took time to be still and do as Solomon advised: "Commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still" Prov. 4:4. Sometimes it is best to sleep over a choice rather than make a hasty decision.

And so, in this day of hustle and rush when one scarcely has time to meditate let me close with this suggestion and scripture:

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things." Phil. 4:8.

Lord, bless this thy servant,
And help him to tell;
The sweet story of Jesus,
That we all love so well.

Then as every message,
Goes out on the air;
May they have thine approval,
And be backed up with prayer.

May hearts that are hungry,
Discouraged or ill;
Find comfort, and hear--
Jesus say, "Peace be still."

Lord bless all who listen,
And may each one receive;
A rich blessing from heaven,
Oh, help them believe.

We know you are faithful,
We know you can't fail;
We ask thine anointing,
On this, "MISSION TRAIL".

--Sara E. Metcalf

Testimonies

From Kansas: "This leaves me much encouraged and determined to press the battle on. I believe the Lord is taking his saints thru various types of 'strange' trials to prepare us for hotter battles that we will have to face in the near future. I don't know what all of the battles will be but I hope each saint will be willing to go deeper and get stronger and let the Lord grant them more power so we will be able to stand. All hell seems to be loose and the evil and wickedness is abounding on every side. However the word says, "Where sin doth abound, grace does much more abound." ... I don't believe the Lord wants us to fear but I believe he wants us to become perfected in love because it casts out fear. He wants us to learn to really trust him and have greater faith than ever before so we can let go and let God in every situation we have to face. There is much for each of us to learn and we need to be searching the scriptures and humbling our hearts and getting an understanding of the weightier matters." --Sis. Shirley Knight

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From Mo.: "I have intended to write you for a long time. But time slips by so fast and so easy it seems. Here it is, one month nearly gone of this new "1976" year. Seeing this, makes me to see how easy it is for the souls out in sin to procrastinate, and the time slips by, and then maybe years have gone, then the enemy tells them, they've already wasted their life, and no need to turn to the Lord now, you've already wasted the best part of your lives, which may be true, but yet that soul, if they'll turn and repent, can have the mercy of God given them, and get the peace and joy of salvation in their soul and the hope of eternal life."

--Bro. Murphy and Sis. Natalie Allen

A Prayer For Those Who Live Alone

I live alone, dear Lord,
Stay by my side,
In all my daily needs,
Be Thou my guide.
Grant me good health,
For that indeed, I pray,
To carry on my work
From day to day.
Keep pure my mind,
My thoughts, my every deed,
Let me be kind, unselfish
In my neighbor's need.
Spare me from fire, from flood,
Malicious tongues,
From thieves, from fear,
And evil ones.
If sickness or an accident befall,
Then humbly, Lord, I pray,
Hear Thou my call.
And when I'm feeling low,
Or in despair,
Lift up my heart,
And help me in my prayer.
I live alone, dear Lord,
Yet have no fear,
Because I feel Your Presence
Ever near. Amen.

From La.: "I am glad to still be saved and encouraged in the Lord. We are now living in Baton Rouge and I wanted you to have our new address. We do desire your prayers that we will be a real example in our new home and neighborhood and let our life shine out as lights to guide others to Christ. I'm sure it will be awhile yet before we feel perfectly at home as we lived 39 1/2 yrs. at our old place, but we feel perfectly satisfied that we were in the order of the Lord. Christian love and prayers," --Max and Lula Williamson, 11525 St. Paul Ave., Baton Rouge, La. 70811.

From S. Car.: "Today finds me encouraged in the dear Lord and with my heart, mind and attention set on things above and not on this earth. My whole desire is to please God here so it will be well with my soul when I meet Jesus. Bro. we sure do have a lot of sick folks down here who need your prayers. Bro. O'Neal Pratt had another light stroke, was in bed for a few days. His body is very weak. . . stay encouraged in the dear Lord and pray for us here."

--Sis. Edna Crummie
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From Okla.: "Thankful for the many blessings we do have in Jesus. Our heavenly Father is so mindful and helps. It is true we would love to have more moisture. It is all in the hands of God. How great he is. I heard the message on the broadcast and am so thankful the good news can be published in this way. It brings us joy to our hearts, that others also may know. I have a precious soul upon my heart and mind, whom you may remember in prayer."

--Sis. Eva Penner
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From La.: "We've so enjoyed the gospel alphabet and were especially blest with H and I. We look forward to the little Mission Trail and the good testimonies are like a letter from home. Today a problem arose concerning one of our loved ones. I was so upset and the burden was so heavy, it seemed I could hardly pray. Then the Lord spoke to me so quietly and said, "Commit thy way unto the Lord; Trust also in Him, and He shall bring it to pass." Psalms 37:5. Immediately such a calm came over my spirit and I just turned it all over to God and let Him bear it for me. Oh, how I thank God that we have one to bear our burdens and heartaches and troubles, one who has all power in Heaven and earth and nothing is impossible with Him!"--Ben and Sybil Goldsberry

From Minn.: "This finds me in good health for which I thank the Lord who is ever present and I always ask Him to rebuke the devil who is going around like a roaring lion that he touch me not. We have plenty of snow and cold weather, but I am able to get out every day, snow, ice, or what not. The Lord keeps me in the holy way day by day. The Lord bless you all and keep you in His holy way. It looks just like we will soon be at home with the Lord as we see the wickedness upon the earth. We are in the days of Sodom and Gomorrah on this earth at the present time, wickedness everywhere. Keep the gospel going. There may be a few yet to repent."

--Bro. Andrew Senti
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From Okla.: "This leaves us both much improved healthwise, also spiritually. The Lord has been so good to us in many ways and encouraged to press on to the higher calling. We do enjoy the Mission Trail paper . . . we look forward to it with all the good testimonies which mean so very much to give strength and courage."

Bro. Joe and Sis. Maria Breckenridge
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From Okla.: "Just wanted all to know I enjoy the paper although. . . I can't see very good. But I do thank the good Lord for seeing as well as I do, because the 6th of this month I was 80 years old. And I do thank the good Lord for still being able to do something for myself. And I desire your prayers for eyes and arm also."

--Sis. Lela Henry
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From Okla.: "I am still saved and living for Jesus this morning. I am going all the way with the Lord. I don't mean to stop short from Heaven. . . Let us live so that we can go shouting into heaven some of these mornings. I am glad I found the Lord before it was too late."

--Sis. Lizzie Jordan

From Mo.: "...we want to live so when we leave this world it will be well with my soul ... Remember us when you pray." --Bro. and Sis. Boulden

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From Calif.: "This leaves me still saved, sanctified, and encouraged to press on for the Lord. He has been so good to me. I am doing very well in body, also my husband is still saved and enjoying the blessing of the Lord. We sure appreciate your prayers for us, and we will continue to pray for you all. May God richly bless you both..."

--Sis. Mable Carter

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From La.: "A very happy good morning to you in Christ Jesus. Yes, Brother Willie, it is a lovely day, the sun is so bright, and the world all around me, seems so alive, early spring flowers coming out of the cold dark earth, and all this makes me know God lives. I could be very sad and so broken hearted, because my dear sister Annie passed away the 17th of Jan. We loved her so much. But I trust God for her soul, safe in his care. The last time I talked with her, she told me she was going to love the Lord more this year than ever. She told me she loved me, and that I had taught her so much about God. Oh! I am so glad I could tell how God loves us so much, and how good he is to me. I can tell only what I know to be the truth. Every day has a new something for me, manna from heaven, in God's Word. I have to study to get my food to supply my need for the day. It is with a thankful heart, I am writing to you. I am so thankful to God, for the Mission Trail Broadcast, and I want to help more this year than ever to keep it on our radio KCKW. I am sending you \$5.00. This is part of the memorial to my sister. Instead of flowers, I want to use it to help the people know more about God." --Sis. Mildred Spurlock

From Ga.: "Greetings in the lovely name of Jesus who came into this world to save the whole world from their sins. I highly appreciate how the Lord suffered, bled and died for the sins of every one and my sins too. I am sorry the majority of the people seemingly are grieving the holy spirit of God... I tell you we are living in the last days. This is a restless world, a corrupt world. People now are living just like the people were in the days of Noah... They don't realize how far they are from God and so close to hell and there are so many false preachers who have gone out into the world leading the people wrong. Jesus said there would be... I thank God for pure clean salvation and for keeping me saved each day. I am praying him to ever help me to live a ready and prepared life..." --Sis. P. R. Bowers

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From Ore.: "Oh, how I enjoy living here where I can attend services. Salvation has never meant so much to me before. It seems the older I grow the dearer Jesus becomes to me, supplies my needs in miraculous ways, spiritually and physically. He has never failed me yet and I am 64 now, so guess I can trust him the rest of the way. He puts an angel at every window. I always feel safe in his care at nite when I am alone here. No one has ever molested me and I have never lost anything by theft... I am reading my Bible thru again as I do every year and I always find something new, something I never noticed before. It is truly like finding buried treasures. If you dig you will find precious things. So I am enclosing some of the Lord's money and I give cheerfully what I can for the Lord loveth a cheerful giver. He has opened His hand to me so I try and open my hand to others. Mama said "you can't out-give the Lord." I've found that true... Christian love," --Sis. Grace Jones

at press time

we understand:

SINGING AND ALL-DAY SERVICE

Lord willing, there will be a singing on Saturday, February 28 at 7:30 p.m. and all-day service Sunday, Feb. 29th here at the Church of God, 1102 E. Pine Pl. Tulsa, Okla. with the young people in charge of the afternoon service on Sun. Anyone wishing to spend the night will be welcome.

--Bro. M. D. Gaines, pastor

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From Ark.: "Just a few lines to let you know we still love the Lord and appreciate all of his blessings, and most of all for saving us from our sins. Brother Murphey, we enjoy the radio message each Sunday morning over KBOA Kennett, Mo. We hope many more will be blessed by the word of God. Like for all the saints to remember us in prayer." --Bro. Charles Gramling

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From Ark.: "...want to say I haven't missed a broadcast and it surely is a blessing to all of us. I can hardly wait till it comes on. Only thing about it is, that it isn't long enough, but we are surely thankful for the 15 minutes... the first Sunday in March is our all-day service and every one is welcome to come be with us. We love all the saints"

--Sis. Della Anschultz, Grubbs, Ark.

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"May God bless you in the work you are doing for Him and make it fruitful. We listen to the broadcast on Sunday mornings at breakfast time usually. I try to manage my work to have breakfast at that time and receive soul food along with the natural food." --Sis. Fern Stubblefield

Neosho, Mo.: "Bro. Gordon Humphrey is here holding meeting now. He will be here over Sunday I understand. He preached well tonight. Bro. Leslie was with us yesterday (Sun.) Bro. Austin has a little program on the Neosho station now. He comes on at 8:15 a.m... Remember little Tim. Cole in prayer. He is in Joplin hospital. He broke his leg." --Bro. T. V. McMillian

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A cordial invitation is extended to all to attend the services at the Church of God chapel in Neosho, Mo., each Sunday, and especially the "all-day" services on the fourth Sunday of each month.

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From Mo.: "I am so thankful for the Lord to go to with our joys, sorrows, trials and disappointments. It is so easy to cry unto Him with our sorrows and trials, but we need to remember to praise Him for our joys too. I'm thankful the Lord has kept me saved through another year. I have no desire to turn back, for what is there to turn to? May the new year find us striving harder to be even more like Christ."

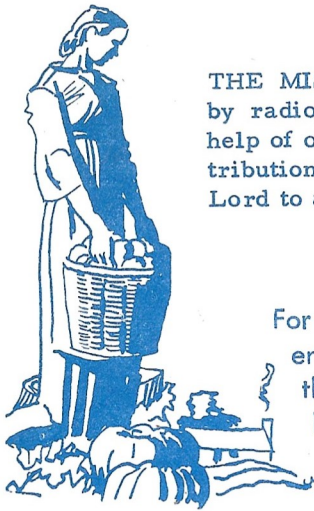
--Sis. Rebecca Sorrell

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Sis. Mamie Norcutt sustained a broken hip in a fall recently and indications are she may be in a wheel chair for some five months. Pray the Lord to speed this healing process. Her address is 765 S. Hill, Ft. Scott, Kans. 66701

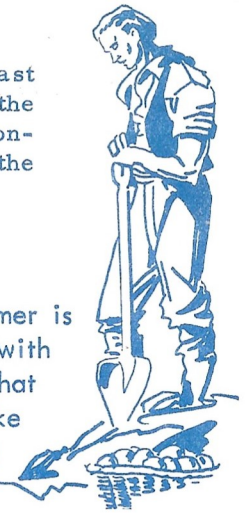
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We welcome another family to Guthrie: Louis and Sue Morgan and children. The congregation continues to grow.



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.
KBOA	Kennett, Missouri	830 kc.	Sunday, 8:30 a. m.

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