



The Mission Trail

Box 99

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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The Gospel Alphabet, Chapter Twelve

S stands for SMILE and T is for TIME

Radio Broadcast for August 29, 1976

As you tune in the broadcast today we hope you are doing so with a smile, expecting something from the Lord. For surely the letter "S" stands for SMILE! If no one smiled think what a sad world this would be! Life would hardly be worth the living. Yet when another smiles with a cheerful good morning to you, how it encourages you and makes you think life is worthwhile after all! So a cheerful good morning to all the listeners!

Now this scripture: "A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken." Prov. 15:13. Also, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones." Prov. 17:22. And again: "He that is of a merry heart hath a continual feast." Prov. 15:15. How could you have a continual feast without a smile? It would be hard, wouldn't it? So I say one of the secrets of life even in trials and persecutions is to smile! "Smile" is the motto often seen on the desks of executives in large companies. How can any man be very rich who cannot smile. What does he have worthwhile? A smile is a simple little thing and yet it is invaluable! It will do what a frown will never accomplish! It is effective in winning souls.

Those of you who may remember Bro. Darius Gibson perhaps will recall how he could preach the truth even to the cutting asunder of the band of sins and evil habits of the ungodly, and all the while there was a big broad smile on his face. How could one feel hurt at

him when he was smiling so victoriously? It was a smile of victory. God's word, which is quick and powerful, was doing the work and Bro. Gibson was only the instrument. So he kept smiling and kept declaring the truths of the wonderful gospel.

A sorrowful heart in a downcast condition breaks the spirit of a man. But he who smiles has a continual feast from within his bosom. It is a fire which cannot be quenched although the enemy is pouring on cold water to put it out. Yet the Spirit of the Lord feeds it with oil from within the secret closet of communion with God. Truly a smile is a delightful tonic which others see and desire!

A smile may sometimes be difficult, but it pays great dividends. Even in the business world, the one most likely to succeed is that person who has a smile! The way to overcome is to tread your path whether rocky or smooth, with a smile on your face! Frowning and grumbling are not signs of victory. Smiling helps

bring the victory. Don't wait until your joy bubbles over to smile; go ahead and smile now and develop a joyful disposition. This helps bring happiness. In fact, a smile is a powerful element in overcoming infirmities and ill health.

Another thing about the smile, it is a universal language. Though one may not understand the foreigner who speaks a foreign language, we are much more likely to understand his smile. It is the window through which we can perceive his friendliness. I wonder if such statements of Jesus as, "And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?" Matt. 7:3, or "Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel." Matt. 23:24, would not have brought a smile to the listeners, and yet think what great truths he spoke and how effective they were!

Doesn't it do something down inside you to meet a person who smiles and says: "I'm mighty glad to meet you." A warm and friendly smile goes a long way in winning souls to the Lord. Proverbs 11:30 says it this way: "The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise." A smile is the key that unlocks the heart. "A man that hath friends must show himself friendly" Prov. 18:24. Jesus said: "Be of good cheer", so why should we not smile? A smile eases tensions and calms those who may become irritated. Those who have not learned to smile can be a source of real trouble, because they are unhappy within. I agree pleasantness does not solve all our problems, but it certainly makes it easier.

Furthermore, being able to smile in the face of difficulties, exhibits courage.

So being able to smile when danger is near is a great asset. This helps bring the victory. David went to fight Goliath and I believe he went with a calm assurance that God was going to give him the victory, so who knows, he may have been smiling all the while? Paul writes, "...concerning them which sleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope" 1 Thess. 4:11. So it is beautiful to see a smile that struggles through tears. Remember, when you smile it makes it easier for another to smile too!

T stands for TIME! It has been said, "Today well lived makes every yesterday a dream of happiness, and every tomorrow a vision of hope." How true!

Today is all we have. Yesterday is gone forever as a dream and tomorrow is only a vision, which may never come. What you do with today will determine what eventually happens to your whole life. That little space of time sandwiched in between one's birth and death, is so important. To kill today is like committing suicide on a very slow basis.

One of my favorite scriptures tell us this: "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." Psa. 90:12. Though our days be few, yet we can put a lot of living into them. There are those who live a long time, and yet do not find the secret of a happy heart. We cannot re-live yesterday, for it is gone forever and tomorrow may never come. The leaves of the calendar turn only forward. It is like the speedometer on my car--I never turn it backward but only forward. Yet many miles I travel from year to year. Time is like the wheels of a chariot which has a ratchet on them. They never move backward.

"Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth." Prov. 27:1. The rich man in Luke 12:20 allowed time to run out for him without making preparations to meet God. Jesus said: "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." John 9:4. So the secret of life is: Take time to live. Make it count! Don't squander your time. It never returns."

If our time is rightly divided we should find a space to think, to plan, to work, to read, as well as a time to be friendly, to assist others, to weep with them that weep and to rejoice with them that do rejoice. And all of the while we should be thankfully and joyfully serving the Lord. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." Eccl. 12:13-14.

Then when death comes and cuts off time, one should by all means be ready for eternity and the next world. What a wonderful life!

THE DUTIES OF TODAY

Oft we ponder, looking yonder,
At a duty far away;
Often fretting, and forgetting
Those about us where we tread.

The duties nearest are the dearest;
They are not so far away:
Sweetest flowers, they are ours,
Growing at our feet today.

Be possessing present blessing,
Wait not for tomorrow's shower;
There's a beauty in each duty.
Bringing payment every hour.

Look not backward, live not forward,
Grand and glorious is today:
Let us give it while we live it
All the honor that we may.

Pastures greenest, waters cleanest,
Where the Shepherd leads today;
Of tomorrow need we borrow
While he feeds us on the way?

Creator Of The Universe



IN RETROSPECT, REJOICE

Look back on all the way the Lord your God has led you. Do you not see it dotted with ten thousand blessings in disguise? Call to mind the needed succor sent at the critical moment: the right way chosen for you, instead of the wrong way you had chosen for yourself; the hurtful thing to which your heart so fondly clung, removed out of your path; the breathing-time granted, which your tried and struggling spirit just at the moment needed. Oh, has not Jesus stood at your side when you knew it not? Has not infinite Love encircled every event with its everlasting arms, and gilded every cloud with its merciful lining? Oh, retrace your steps, and mark His footprint in each one! Thank Him for them all, and learn the needed lesson of leaning more simply on Jesus.—

F. Whitfield

Testimonies

Sister Nellie West wrote and told how the Lord really worked out a problem for her and she was able to get her health card to keep children. She said it made her think of the scripture: "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." Isa. 65:24. Sis. West also stated: "I sure enjoyed the short time I spent at the camp meeting. Pray for us here at Grubbs that God will send someone to help us."

--Sis. Nellie West

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From Ark.: "I've just now been reading Mission Trail. I want you to know I still love Mission Trail and read every word of it. I do love your sermon and all the testimonies and would like to give my testimony here. I'm glad I'm acquainted with my Lord and I'm glad he knows me. I have to call on Him daily. I live alone and no one to talk to except Jesus, so I talk to Him about everything. I do my bit to work in his kingdom and my concern is to win souls to God. If only I can just be a seed sower. Maybe some seed will bear fruit for Him. My daily prayer is for every worker in God's kingdom. I see no big "I's" and little "you's" in God's kingdom..."

--Sis. Belva Howard

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From TEXAS:

I am still saved and sanctified too,
Trusting in God and praying for you.
I'm so glad of the Mission Trail today,
It keeps me encouraged in the strait narrow way.
The gospel is so precious on its printed page
To keep us pressing on, in spite of old age.

The Father above, gave his only begotten son
That we might keep saved thru the crucified one,
Jesus is soon coming back for his spotless bride.
I want to be ready, so with him I can abide.
He said I'll go and prepare a place for you
That where I am you can dwell too.

I'm sending five dollars to help with the Mission Trail.
So just keep it coming to me, thru the mail.
I need your prayers all along the way
So just keep praying for me day by day.

Christian love, --Nellie Lovell.

From La.: "... yes, Miss Sheppard visits with me, reads to me and has prayer ... I love your messages and songs. They thrill me--a good breakfast for my soul. Thank you very much. ... I love your sweet smiles. They are like a ray of sunshine to me. Well, so long for now. May God bless us all until we meet again in the blessed name of Jesus."

--Mrs. Lillie Evans

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From Okla.: "I am happy to say I'm saved and sanctified rejoicing in God and this great salvation. Through His marvelous grace and power I am on the victory side with Jesus. He has done so much for me, I can never thank and praise God enough. I love the Lord. He means so much to me. ... I enjoy reading the Mission Trail paper. Its precious messages, soul food. God bless you in this work for the Lord and encouragement of believers, especially the household of faith. It was good seeing you all at the camp meetings, your cheerful countenance is a blessing, keep smiling. Also glad to meet dear Patsy and her lovely children. Kathleen and her family I met at Huntsville, Ark. meeting in the old country school house. I enjoy going there. I have it good here in my apartment at Golden Rule Home. There is plenty to do for all who are able and willing to help others which makes life more worthwhile and joyful in the service of our heavenly Master. I am thankful I was able to be at Monark Springs camp meeting. Eight days of precious truth went forth in word and song. It was real joy, caused rejoicing to see souls helped, spiritually and physically in every way. God is good. His tender mercies endureth forever. I mean by God's grace to always be true, follow the Lord all the way to the end of my days. Nothing better we can do than serve the Lord God."

--Sis. Julia Llewellyn

From Miss.: "I received the Mission Trail today, always pleased to read every line. I do thank the good Lord for his help. I can see so many ways he has blessed me in this lonely time. I don't mind being alone while it is day. When night comes it's different. We have aged people living alone. I just go stay with them. I know the good Lord fixed this for me. Bless His dear name. Do pray for me. Your friend,"

--Sis. Rosa Watson

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From Kans.: "I hope you are both doing fine after attending a number of meetings this summer. My two older girls attended most of the National Camp-meeting and said it was good. They seemed to enjoy the messages and also the sisters meetings that were held. I wasn't able to attend any of it but hope to get at least one week end of the Boley meeting. May the Lord continue to bless in the meetings because we sure need the power of God manifested in a great way in the wicked times. I trust that more people will get a real vision of the Church of God and get a deeper insight into the real depths of Salvation and will quit living beneath their priviletes. So many of us are so modern these days that I believe we have a tendency to trust our own wisdom for far too many things and are failing to see the power of God working because of our lack of faith, trust and confidence. May the Lord bless all who profess to be Saints and teach us how to really be rock bottom and rooted and established. I am still seeking and digging for myself and determined to get a greater understanding and a deeper depth... Sis. Katherine said the Myrtle meeting was glorious and I thank the Lord for that. Well, I will close for this time and may the Lord continue to bless the broadcast. Christian love,"

--Sis. Shirley Knight

From Okla.: "I love to read the little paper. It means a lot to me. I love the Lord with all my heart. I intend to make heaven my home. Pray for me. I live alone. I lost my husband 7 years ago, but God has been so good to me."

--Sis. Mamie McKay

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From Calif.: "... I want to testify what the Lord did for me last week. I had been shopping with a friend and I got back home and came across the lawn and got to the side walk and I started to stumble and I couldn't make it and fell backward and fell on my back and came down on the back of my head. I hit the side walk with my head so hard it seemed almost to crack it, but do you know I never hurt my head, but it hurt my one eye but the Lord took that away, until the third day it got to hurting and I went into the home for our morning worship and requested prayer and in a little while it was gone... remember that the Lord will protect me from falling."

--Sis. Edith Wittenborn

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From Calif.: "God is love and true love is a gift from heaven. May this find all well and happy in Him. Do pray for us... We have all surrendered to Him who proved His love by redeeming us from the pit of sin through His death of the cross." --Bro. and Sis. H. P. Huskey

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From Calif.: "I sure do love the Lord and want him to help me every day to live for him and please him... People better take warning. Time is drawing close at hand."

--Sis. Ada Leach

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From Minn.: "This finds me going on in the Holy way. I am still well in soul and body and get around good, for which I thank the Almighty God who made this body and is able to keep it in health and in strength till He calls me home."

--Bro. Andrew Senti

From Ga.: "Greetings in the name of our great big God for the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. 2 Chron. 16:9. And the Lord is with us while we be with him and if we seek him he will be found of us, but if we forsake him he will forsake us. 2 Chron. 15:2. Bro. Murphey the word of God is all true. These same scriptures were for those folk in those days and now it is in these days for us, and the only way for us to get into God's heaven is the Bible way. There is only one true way, one true church, one Lord, one faith, one baptism. Eph. 4:5. I am happy in the Lord Jesus striving to enter in at the strait gate."

--Sis. P. R. Bowers

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From Okla.: "I am thankful to God for his many blessings to us all. He is so good to all that will let him. I am so glad he is my loving Father... Remember me."

--Sis. Ida Ruckman

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From Mo.: "Another summer month has come and gone. Soon fall and the turning of the leaves and so beautiful, then the cold weather. Our July month was so hot and so many heavy thunderstorms. One is predicted for tonight. I just turn off air conditioner fans and sit in my chair, put myself in God's care and everything turns out fine for me... Seems our country is in a turmoil. One of our outstanding young men and his family with two other people was so quickly taken from us by plane accident. My heart reaches out to the parents, members of the family and friends of these young people, how tragic. I too, have known sorrow thru sudden and accidental deaths--three at one time. God in his love and understanding gives us strength to bear these trials..."

--Sis. J. Edw. Leach

From Okla.: "Time swiftly carries us along on the great eternity bound tide and we do not know the time God's call will come and the tide deposit us on yon eternal shore. We pray this will find you all well. This leaves us very well in answer to prayer. The Lord does help and encourage us to press on. The camp meeting was very good. We want to ever press closer to the Lord and be ready for that glorious camp meeting around the throne in heaven. My prayer is--Lord help me work while it is day... We have had good rains, keeping things so green and pretty. We enjoy the broadcast and the Mission Trail very much as we are not able to travel and go to the chapel services much. It makes the broadcast and little paper precious to us. May God increase your blessings in your work for him."

--Chalmer and Doris Bowers

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From Pa.: "Greetings in the precious name of Jesus! He is the one on whom we can depend in times of distress or calm. He is ever near, and His promises are sure, for He has never failed me yet. Praise His name! I am so glad I have one to whom I can go at all times, day or night and He hears and answers... God bless you as you work in His vineyard and keep you from harm as you travel our busy highways. So many things are happening. There is such tragedy, but God knows and will care for His own."

--Sis. Eva Cox

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From Okla.: "Greetings of love in Christ Jesus, who loved us so that he gave himself for us. I am happy for the love of God. I am thankful for the tender mercies of our God, still busy with gardening and canning. It is kind of dry here... God bless his word as it goes forth by broadcast. I am thankful for the prayers of the saints."

--Sis. Eva Penner

at press time

we understand:

Deaths

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."
 --Revelations 14:13.

It is with sympathy and very deep sorrow of heart that we report the passing of the following with the address of remaining loved ones. Pray the Lord to comfort them:

Sister LETA PORTER died Aug. 3.
 Bro. Amos Porter, R.2, Grandby, Mo. 64844.

Bro. ALVAH LAWSON died Aug. 3.

Bro. WILLIE McMAKIN died Aug. 7.
 Sis. Ella McMakin, 209 South Phila., Shawnee, Okla. 74801.

Sister BEULAH MAE FLYNN died August 12.
 Bro. Delbert Flynn, R. 1, Loranger, La. 70446

Bro. ROBERT FORBES died Aug. 17
 Sis. Robert Forbes, 114 White Street, Hammond, La. 70401

SPENCER MORGAN HOWELL, age 15 drowned August 19.
 Jimmy and Betty Howell, Star Route, Box 10X, Loranger, La. 70446.

You are invited to attend the all-day meeting at Grubbs, Arkansas, Sunday September 5.

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From Mo.: "Campmeeting has come and gone for another year ... I trust many souls were blessed and above all drawn closer to God. I am sure you heard about Bro. Alvah Lawson passing on this week. His place looked strangely empty today. But we feel God's mercy. He didn't have to lay and suffer and he was suffering. No more crutches for him... Pray for us." --Vicki Taylor

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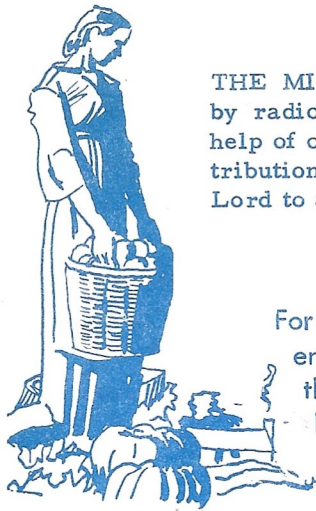
We are praying the Lord's blessings to be upon our dear brother A. W. Marken, Rt. 1, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301. He is passing through the valley of affliction and will be 83 years of age Sept. 7th. Happy birthday, Bro. Marken!

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"Sis. Wadley (Aunt Rilla) passed away Monday and her funeral services will be Friday, Aug. 13, at 1:00 out West of Hennessey. I have heard of quite a number of passings of people I have known or known of in just this last week or so. I am sorry sister Porter passed and she and Bro. Amos had not been married a year yet. Well, God does all things well so we submit to his will."
 --Sis. Shirley Knight

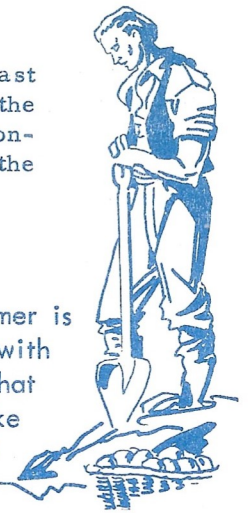
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It was good to see the saints this summer in the campmeetings and hear their testimonies of victory. And thanks to all who make it possible for us to send forth the messages through the Mission Trail.



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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