



The Mission Trail

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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 Seventeen

Y stands for YOU!!!
Radio Broadcast for February 20, 1977

"But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." James 1:22. Good morning, friends. I hope today finds each of you doing the will of God and that you are not only hearers. It is a great and wonderful thing to be able to hear the word of God. How often do we feel sorry for those who have not the privilege of hearing the truth! That is indeed tragic. But what is even more tragic, many hear and do not the will of the Father!

For more than a year now, we have been going through the gospel alphabet, taking each and every letter and applying some spiritual significance to it. For today I would like you to consider the letter Y. I would say Y stands for YOU! Not someone else, but you. At one time or another you have probably seen the advertisement of some of the military branches of the United States government pictured as Uncle Sam in his red, white and blue suit and his finger pointed at you, with the caption: "Uncle Sam needs you" or some such statement. And he is looking and pointing right at you.

Along the highway near Sapulpa, Oklahoma there is a sign which says: "We want U in SapUlpa". And I notice SapUlpa is spelled with a capital letter being used for the U in SapUlpa! So, the Lord wants you, friends.

This matter of serving the Lord is a personal thing. Others may advise you. They can seek out opportunities for you. While I talk you can listen.

That is good, but it is not enough. As the text says: "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." You and your past, whatever it was, you helped to make it. You and your present, whatever it is, you helped to make it. And you and your future, whatever it may be, will be based and largely made by whatever you do. It is just that simple. Oh, I know there are others who enter into the scene. They will advise and influence. And you are affected by the influence of others, but the real doing is left to you. We can pray, and it is our duty to do that for you, but if you ever go forward it will be up to you to do the walking. If you have never done so, you need to come to yourself. That is exactly what the prodigal son did. Listen: "And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!" Luke 15:17. He realized where he was, away from father, home and loved ones. He knew where he wanted to be, so placing the blame where it belonged, on himself, he arose and

headed for home! He began to travel the distance from where he was to where he wanted to be. If you want to go some place, there must be a beginning and a direction. You can start the beginning right where you are and head in the direction of where you want to be, or I should say, to where God wants you to be. After all, that is what counts.

Another thing, I think we should be ourselves, just natural, the way the Lord wants us to be. This doesn't bar improvement, for Heb. 6:1 tells us: "... let us go on unto perfection". But ask God to make the improvement on yourself. And then cooperate with Him. Don't try to be like someone else. Saul had his armor put on David when he was to go out and meet Goliath, but it didn't work. He did not feel free, but was cramped and ill at ease. So what did he do? Well, he just stripped off all that heavy armor and went in the name of the God of Israel. He felt better just resting in the Lord and trusting in Him. This armor I would liken to pretense. It would probably look good and put on a show, but David was not used to it and did not feel free in it. So he was only himself as a shepherd boy when he went out and slew the giant.

After all, you can't be someone else any way. You may try, but there is only one of each person. An imitation doesn't count. God made the peacocks and it is within his will for them to show their beautiful feathers, but he didn't make you to be one and strut about with pride! He made the donkey to bray and the eagle to fly, but you and I are designed to fulfill God's will in a different way. Listen: "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" Micah 6:8,

I like the way the writer of 1 Cor. 13:11 expressed himself: "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." Altogether too many never seem to reach maturity in spiritual things. A sign of maturity is a person who is not afraid to try for fear he will fail. The servant with one talent gave this excuse: "I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine." Matt. 25:25. So he reaped what he had sown-- failure. Let us grow up in maturity. "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat." Heb. 5:12.

A mature person must have faith. The apostle said: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13. And he must not turn back. "And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." Luke 9:62.

Joseph was a great man of God. And he showed his maturity to his brethren even after he could have easily rewarded them for their evil deeds to him. Listen: "And when Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him. And they sent a messenger unto Joseph, saying, Thy father did command before he died, saying, So shall ye say unto Joseph, Forgive, I pray thee now, the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin; for they did unto thee evil: and now, we pray thee, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father. And Joseph

wept when they spake unto him. And his brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we be thy servants. And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God? But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them." Gen. 50:15-21. So Joseph was just being himself and he forgave his brothers.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING TO STOP?
Where are you going to stop, brother?
And where will you register last,
When the brakes are down and the lights
out,
And life's last mile-stone is past?
Will your name be written in letters of
gold,
With those who in white robes stand?
Or, will it appear in the list of those
Who have built their house on the sand?
Where are you going to stop, brother?
And what is the goal you seek?
Do you find yourself nearer the pearly
gates
At the close of each day and week?
Are you traveling daily the King's
highway?
Do you quench your thirst at the fount
Of the Savior's love that was opened
for all
Long ago on Calvary's mount?

Where are you going to stop, brother?
Are you certain your ticket is right?
Be sure it is marked to the city of gold,
Where cometh no death nor no night.
Does each sun at its setting find you
farther along
In the straight and narrow way?
Are you nearer the holy city each night
By the journey of one more day?

Where are you going to stop, brother?
'Tis a question of moment to all.
To what port are you steering and
where will you be
When the shades of life's evening fall?
Oh! where are you going to stop, my
brother?
Pause a moment before it's too late
And see if your passport will carry
you through
Where loved ones your coming await.

Testimonies

From Oregon: "I do enjoy the Mission Trail, keeps me up with the saints back East and marriages, deaths and births; also enjoy the testimonies, many of whom I know, always cut out the pictures of people I know, also many of the pretty poems for my scrapbook. I am sorry to hear of Bro. Smalling's death. I never met him, but I felt as though I know him and her. My, how the Church of God is growing over in the glory world. So many I have known and loved thru the years have departed to that other shore. Bro. Glidewell's death was a great loss to me. He was so kind and good to me. They were close friends of mine . . . They were so generous to the church and gave us so much food for camp meeting and assembly . . . May God bless the work you are doing for him . . ."

--Sis. Grace Jones

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From Calif.: "We are thankful to be saved and encouraged to press on for the Lord. Thankful for our health and strength. My husband and I are both doing quite well now, enjoying the blessings of the Lord. He has been so good to us. Most of all we are thankful to be saved. We enjoy reading the Mission Trail. Sorry I am late with my offering, but do remember us in your prayers as we are praying for you both."

--Mable and Paul Carter

From Kans.: "I am recovering from a virus but thankful to God for his continued blessings and the time afforded for more reading and praying while afflicted. I truly thank the Lord for all of his goodness, kindness and special love that he bestows upon his Saints. I find it a special privilege to be a Saint of God and I certainly appreciate knowing and being in the Truth. Many people are deceived and merely beating the air. But we are truly blessed and I give praise and honor to God. It is wonderful to be free and not entangled in the world or babylon. As one song says "I love to serve my Jesus" and another says "This is like Heaven to Me." I thank my Lord that he loves me and saved me and wants me to go to Heaven and live with him forever. It really thrills my soul thinking about the things of God and Heaven and I am excited about going there."

--Sis. Shirley Knight

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From Ohio: "Greetings from our wintry Ohio once again. Trust this finds you well and still enjoying salvation. Guess you have heard a lot about things back this way. Snow, snow, more snow. Ice, and more ice. Arlan did go back to school today. I think he was sort of glad. The sun is shining right now. I think the temperature is around 7°. Supposed to get up in the teens today. I am glad to know we are serving a great God, and to know He does have control of His universe. He is so precious to me. We aren't having services in the chapel now. Maybe not until the middle of March. We have Sunday morning services at Bro. Richard and Sis. Nancy Bethel's home in Springfield. At Sis. Della and Bro. Johnny's home on Wed. nights. We need your prayers. We want you to know we haven't forgotten you folks and think of your labors in prayer... Christian love,"

--Bro. & Sis. Kenneth Abbott

From Mo.: "I've pondered this verse: Gal. 5:16--"This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh." This was our verse with the S. School lesson Sunday. Seems we can see how people get more and more involved and into things they wouldn't have considered if they decide to do just as they desire, following fleshly life instead of the spiritual life."

--Bro. Leslie Adams

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From Mo.: "Greetings in Jesus dear precious name who gave his sweet life that we might live. It's just more wonderful than we can imagine. I love this straight and narrow way. I wouldn't want it any other way... do pray for us all as we do you all."

--Sis. Katie Gibson

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From Okla.: "Greetings in Jesus dear name, this lovely day the Lord has made for us to enjoy. We see the little green grass starting up, makes us think it won't be long until green-gathering time. I always enjoyed gathering greens and enjoyed eating them. In Ark. we called greens poke salad. No matter what they were called they were good eating. Speaking of Ark., we enjoyed a feast at the Lord's table with the dear ones at Garfield, Ark. yesterday. Our son Coy drove us over for the service. That we surely enjoyed. Also it was a lovely day to look over those mountains. There are some high ones. One can see for many miles. In our travel thru life, we climb some very steep rugged mountains. Sometimes we almost despair of reaching the top. We must never look side ways or down, but keep looking up and Jesus will draw us up on top of that mountain where we can see more miles over into Canaan, nearer our eternal home... we thank the Lord for you two and the work thru the Mission Trail and broadcast."

--Chalmer and Doris Bowers

From Okla.: "Just a few lines to let you hear from me. I am yet saved and encouraged to live for the dear Lord each day of my life. I want to please him in every way, praise his holy name. Now I am sending you some help on sending the paper where ever you send it. I still want it to keep coming to me. I like to read it."

--Sis. Annie Bowen

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From Pa.: "Greetings in Jesus dear Name! The One who is ever near when we need Him. I do thank Him for every blessing He sends our way and am sure He will always be there when I call in prayer, no matter how small the problem or how big, too. We have surely been having some winter weather. Had to close schools to get enough natural gas to keep the people warm in their homes. Several froze to death. They were elderly and no one watched over them...I am so glad to receive the paper, for it is a sermon I can read and it gives me a real blessing...The letters from the different saints give me such a lift. Praise the Lord for all of them."

--Sis. Eva Cox

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From Okla.: "Oh let us magnify the name of the Lord together and exalt his great name. We are still saved and living for the Lord here. God has been so good to us, daily He loadeth us with benefits...I often stop in to see Sis. Berg. Sometimes she needs a helping hand. She is doing well for one of 91. Some days suffers much with arthritis in her arms, hands and knees. Please pray for her. Sis. Berg enjoys your programs on radio. She has good ear to hear but cannot see well enough to read The Mission Trail...The love of God is precious, more to be desired than all the riches of the world with a golden fence around it."

--Sis. Julia Llewellyn

From Miss.: "It has been quite some time since I've written you, but I still receive the Mission Trail and enjoy it. Please keep it coming. Sorry I can't pick up your broadcast on the radio. I get courage to "keep on keeping" from the many testimonies of those who write to the Mission Trail, and other papers. My health hasn't been so good the last two years, but I'm thankful I'm still able to attend church services most of the time. I am enclosing this offering. May the Lord multiply it as He did the loaves and fishes, to help you to reach the multitudes with the pure gospel, until He says it is enough."

--Sis. Olen Williamson

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From Miss.: "Once again I will write and tell you The Mission Trail came yesterday. I did enjoy it very much. This leaves me encouraged to do my best for our friend Jesus. He is good to all of us. I am still staying most of the time alone, can have time to thank the good Lord and count the many blessings..."

--Rosa Watson

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From Ark.: "I am still encouraged in the Lord and am trying each day to draw closer to him. O how we need to be on guard and be watchful and reading more of his word and be prayerful and to keep ourselves in the love of God to be accepted by Him... I thank God for his saints who will bear our burdens with us. I have been reading the book, "How to Live a Holy Life" and it is so good. I am reading the Bible beginning at Genesis and at Matt. I am starting in to read it through and studying as I go. Pray that I can understand and remember it better... Pray for us all here at Grubbs. We all have some heavy burdens. Some are not well in body. We are praying for you there. Saints, let us all be encouraged and pray one for another."

--Sis. Della Anschultz

From Okla.: "I am feeling pretty good, still living for the dear Lord, trusting Him for soul and body, but I am very weak at present...I was 84 years old the 4th of January. My hearing and eyes are not so good. Pray for my soul more than anything. I am near the end of my life. I am still enjoying reading Mission Trail." --Mary May

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From Ark.: "My heart has been made sad because of the loss of my dear brother who died almost instantly Jan. 27th. He had just eaten breakfast. We were there in Texas at one of our son's house, just he and I at the table and we had been talking about coming home. It must have been a heart attack. Help came but couldn't revive him. He was pronounced dead in a hospital in Pasadena, Texas and was buried in Grand Junction, Colo. One of my daughters flew with me. I was so thankful how the dear Lord provided a way for me to go and how the Lord gave us a safe trip there and back. It was the first time I ever sat in a plane..."

--Sis. Nellie West

From N. Car.: "I must say that I am fine at this writing. The good Lord has really blessed my body. I am up and around but not for long. I tire easily. So I still need lots of rest. I am very grateful to the Lord for what He has done for me. He is a healer indeed. Continue to pray for me..."

--Sis. P. R. Bowers

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From Colo.: "I love that song "Jesus has been so good to me." The children have learned it. It fits our lives so good and shows how he will help us if we will serve him. Oh, for grace to serve him more."

--Sis. Addie McEndree

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From Calif.: "I sure do thank the saints and my dear Lord for sparing my husband's life. I don't think he would be with me if it hadn't been for God and all the prayers. What a mighty God we serve. We are so helpless in ourselves. We couldn't do anything except what he permits us to do...I don't think it will be long till it will all be over and so many will be lost..."--Sis. Ada Leach

Dear Brother Willie:

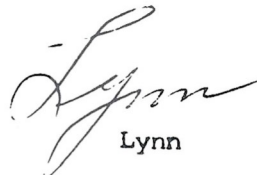
And he said unto them, "Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place and rest a while". I am thankful that Jesus loves us to where he wants to get us in a quiet place and commune with us. To feel his presence in the midst of confusion and turmoil lifts our souls up.

I have a long play album record of the Loftis sisters of Prattsville, Arkansas. This record has 13 songs. I would appreciate you putting a notice in your paper that this stereo record can be had by sending \$5.50 to LYNN CARVER

836 Drexel Drive
Shreveport, La 71106.

Any profits realized will be given to the Church of God. I believe the saints will enjoy and receive a blessing listening to their singing.

May you enjoy this record.



Lynn

at press time

we understand:

AN EVENING OF GOSPEL SINGING has been set by the Enid, Oklahoma congregation, Independence at Hemlock, for Saturday evening, March 26 at 7:30. Everyone is welcome and it is the desire of the congregation that this may be a time of singing in the spirit and that all may be led by the spirit to the mutual benefit of the entire church. Sunday, the 27th will be all-day services, so plan to come and stay. There will be accommodations for over night sleeping. Come in the Spirit and give the Enid congregation an opportunity to prove their hospitality!

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Congratulations to John Samon and Rosalie Johnston who were married Feb. 5, at Myrtle, Mo.; also to Jesse Ray and Beverly Morgan who were married in Guthrie, Feb. 26.

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We are thankful for the days of sunshine after the cold wintry weather. For a day or two Oklahoma experienced windy days as back in the thirties when the dust blew until it settled on cars and homes like rain-drops. How glad we were when some rain and snow came.

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From Wisc.: "You no doubt heard of the cold weather we are having. We had -45° one Sunday. Rice Lake had -60°. That is getting cold... It was good to hear that Harry White got saved. I went up to see him one day during the Guthrie meeting when we were there last summer. Good to see a few getting saved. We need some encouragement along that line." --Bro. Frank Dietrich

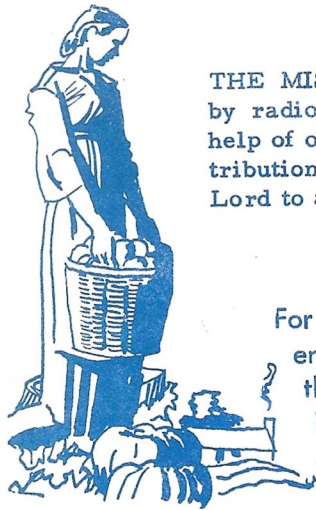
It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of Sis. Viola Perry on Feb. 1 in Illinois. It is reported that she had suffered a stroke and later died peacefully in her sleep. She was one of the daughters of a very outstanding family of old-time saints--the Fields family.

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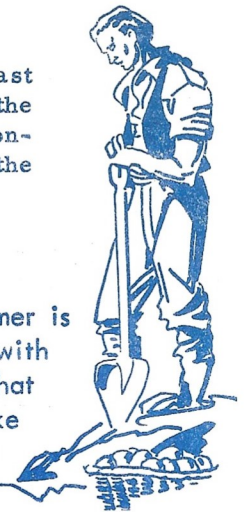
It is only after careful consideration that we have decided to discontinue the broadcast over WFPR, Hammond, La. But a sudden increase of 75% per broadcast seemed just too great. This was to have become effective on March 1st. The current rate which we had been paying was \$10 and the new rate would have been \$17.50. The station is not a powerful one and is not heard very far away, making an inconvenience to those who would like to listen as far away as Baton Rouge. October 29, 1977 would have completed ten years The Mission Trail has been heard on WFPR. Thanks to all who have made it possible. If a station with better coverage of some 30 or forty miles can be had in that area someone please let us know.

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Many thanks to all the friends and saints who called, sent get-well cards and who came to agree in prayer with us during our battle of affliction in Feb. with what appeared to be an attack of appendicitis. I am so thankful to be able to report those prayers were not in vain and I am up and going again in the work of the Lord. Our times are in His hands and answered prayer gives greater assurance. Thanks to all again. Continue to pray that God may add His strength. --Bro. Willie



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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