



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

SEPTEMBER, 1978

Counting the Cost!

Radio Broadcast for August 6, 1978

Good morning, friends. Good morning to each and every listener of the broadcast. I am certainly happy to be coming your way once again with a short gospel message. And for this time I have chosen to speak to you about a very important subject in regard to serving the Lord. And that is whether or not it will pay you to really be a child of God, to give up all that is necessary to become his child.

Now the rewards are great for doing this, but we must not forget that it is certainly going to cost you something. And I just have quite a number of scriptures, so there will be quite a few scriptures involved in this. If you have your Bible and would like to read along with us, why you do that. Look them up and search the scriptures for they are the things which testify of Jesus Christ and it is in Him and through Him that we have eternal life.

Now there are three things to consider if you are counting the cost as to whether or not you want to really serve the Lord. Number one is to really count the cost. Number two is to confess your sins and number three is to settle up with your fellow man.

Now, let us take a closer look: First, at counting the cost. Here is the scripture: "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it? Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin

to mock him, Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish." Luke 14:28-30. That would be tragic, would it not?

But you might want to know, what is it really going to cost me? All right, really, in fact, it is going to cost you everything. Listen, "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath he cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:33. And again, Paul said, "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ," Phil. 3:7-8. Now, that is a pretty big package, isn't it? Everything! It would include all ungodliness.

Listen: "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world." Titus 2:11-12.

And it will also include forsaking your own ways. "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." Isa. 55:7.

Now, there is another thing it will cost, and that is, it will cost the world and the love of it. Listen: "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." 1 John 2:15-16.

Now, it will also cost worldly conformity: "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Romans 12:2.

So this means that we are not to seek to be like the world, or of the world, or to love the world. In fact, the worldly folks might even cause us to lose reputation, so to speak. We know that reputation is what folks think you are, but character is what you really are. Listen: "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." James 4:4. So here James pointed out that you just can't go along with the world and be like the world and of the world. And again, Jesus said: "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake." Luke 21:17. Can't you see, the cost is great; it's mounting! Again Jesus said:

"Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you

from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake." Luke 6:22.

Well, you say, that's sure giving up a lot. Well, yes, it really is. But did you know there is more yet to go? Listen, your own life, you must forsake and lay down. I quote: "And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." Matt. 10:38-39.

So that is some of the things a person gives up. Well you say, what's left? What do you really have left after giving up all this? Well, just hold on. Let us get to the bottom of this first!

The second thing to do after giving up everything: Number two, is to confess your sins. And I quote, 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I like that. Now, that is a promise. And again, Proverbs 28:13, "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Now, certainly, we want to have mercy, do we not? Then confess and forsake. Give it up. Give it all up for the sake of Christ.

Now, the third thing in considering whether or not you really want to be a child of God is to settle with your fellow-man. This means that if you have robbed and taken that which is not rightfully yours, you take it back. You make restitution. Did you ever hear of doing that? making your wrongs right to your fellow man? I quote Ezekiel 33:15-16--"If the wicked restore the pledge, give again that he had robbed, walk in the statutes of life,

without committing iniquity; he shall surely live, he shall not die. None of his sins that he hath committed shall be mentioned unto him: he hath done that which is lawful and right; he shall surely live." That is a wonderful promise.

Now let me very briefly enumerate these three things to do in considering whether or not you really want to be a child of God:

1. ...Count the cost
2. Confess your sins
3. Settle up with your fellowman.

Well, you say, Now what? What do I get? What's the recompense? Where do we go from here? Oh, the best is yet to come! Now we are coming to the good part! Let me give you the promises of the Lord:

"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." Wonderful, wonderful promises that God has such wonderful things prepared for those who love Him. You cannot comprehend it with your natural eye or your ear and all, in a natural way. And that is why the world doesn't understand why would one give up all these things to go the way of the cross! And yet there is, as I say more to come, more good things to come. Listen:

"Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee. And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or chil-

dren, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life." Mark 10:28-30. Oh, wonderful are the great promises that He has given us.

So, as I look back over my life, I say: Well, I am glad that I counted the cost. You may remember that old song that is sung sometimes, "I'm glad I counted the cost"! Well, I surely am and in return I give up the things that cause sorrow and grief and heart-ache of heart, and in turn I get back blessings, the things that pertain to this life and the promises of God for the future. Well, look, you even get this right here in this world. I quote from Psalms 68:19-- "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation." Well, what benefits? ... the benefits of a good conscience, the benefits of the knowledge of sins forgiven, the benefits of life and health and strength. And the assurance that the Lord is going to go with us all the way, even unto the end of the world.

Again in Psalms 84:11-- "For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." Wonderful, wonderful are the promises of the Lord!

And then a final scripture here in 2 Cor. 5:1. This I really love: "For we know if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." I find that a very comforting promise, and friends, you can take a promise like that, and you can go to sleep at night on that

promise with the assurance to know that if the Lord calls you before morning and if life leaves your mortal body, then you have a hope. You have a hope that goes beyond the realms of mortal man that reaches into the eternal heavens of God, that there is a building, an house not made with hands reserved in heaven for you! I say, as you count the cost may the Lord give you the grace to say, Yes, it will pay! This is the way I'm going by the help and grace of God.

Our Father, bless the message this day to the good of every listener. We pray that you would deal with that one who is nearest eternity and help them to consider the cost, count the cost, pay the price, go all the way with the Lord. Heaven will be cheap at any price and they will be glad they did. Bless those who are sick and in need of healing. Do the very best for each one and for that which is accomplished we will surely give thee the praise in Jesus name. Amen.

You know, friends, people sometime think about investment in a material sense, in a financial way and they want to choose out where the interest will be good, the returns will be great. But I know of no investment upon this earth that will compare to this investment in eternal things! God bless and help you and thank you for being with us a few minutes today. Do be with us again next Sunday, same time, same station and until we meet again this is Willie Murphey saying God bless and keep you always and a very cheerful goodbye!



From the desk of

ALBERTA COOK

August 11, 1978
Pomona, Calif.

Dear Brother and Sister Murphy,

I am writing to correct what mother said about the poem, *The End of the Road Is A Bend in the Road*. I typed it off and sent it TO her. But I did not compose the poem. Your readers will probably recognize it, I think maybe its one of Helen Steiner Rice's poems, but I'm not even sure about that! (I don't even remember what I typed it from....)

Yours in Christ,

Alberta Cook

From N. Mex.: "God bless and save many precious souls in your meetings going on. I had a dear cousin killed instantly in a car accident just lately. It was so sad. I want to send an offering to help where needed and do praise the dear Lord for all his goodness and mercy, tender love and care."

--Sis. Ruth Doolittle

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From Kansas: "Glad to still be able to report victory and a joyous determination to press the battle on. Seems like the battle tends to get hotter but we know God will grant us sufficient grace if we ask so we are not one bit discouraged. A portion of one song says: "Faith in conflict waxes stronger" so intend to let that be in our case. I did not attend the National meeting but felt I should help here at home since I had been gone the 2 previous Sundays while in Alabama. Also there were a number that went from here so some were needed to help in services here... We trust that much good was done and that more people understand the solid truth. ...the Lord insists on holiness out of our lives and will not let sin into Heaven so it is up to every soul to completely sell out so they can make it in."

--Sis. Shirley A. Knight

From S. Car.: "Greetings of love in our Lord Jesus...we are getting along pretty well and pressing on and thanking the Lord for his goodness to us. We have been getting some good rains and things are greened up. The watermelons have set on a new growth and we will probably be selling some in another week...we hope you have it cooler by now. Yes, it is some sensation to go back to our old home-site and think of the past events and happenings of our childhood days and go back to where we found God and so many made a start but wouldn't go on...I am so thankful he brought me out. I love him so much and by his help I want to be found of him when he comes..."

--Howard and Minnie Boulden

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From Pa.: "This is the day that the Lord hath made. I do praise Him I can move my body and pray for those who can't. When you see so many elderly who can hardly move, it makes one thankful for all blessings from our Lord. We had a cool night here after thunderstorms, so it is giving us some relief from the hot humid days. The Lord knows what we need, so sends it at His good pleasure...God bless you as you work in our Lord's vineyard. I do enjoy the Mission Trail so much. Seems I know each one who writes. May He watch over you as you travel and give you wisdom to help someone find that peace which only comes from following Jesus."

--Sis. Eva Cox

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From Okla.: "When we get old we can't do so many things but I thank God for what I can still do. I had my 77th birthday Sunday and I had a nice day. I got many cards and gifts...my children and grandchildren were here so I have a lot to be thankful for and most of all I am thankful I know God."

--Sis. Ida Ruckman

From Minn.: "This finds me well in soul and body. I got over the cold I had for a while. The Lord was by my side and gave the healing touch. My walk is not so good as it used to be but what can I expect at 91 1/2 years on the face of this earth? Praise the Lord who has been so good to me and He has prepared a home for me everlasting in the Heavens...I am still receiving the Mission Trail and enjoy it. Soon the Lord will break through the clouds and come in the air to take all his saints home. I love the Lord for all He has done for me in times past...I am glad that the message of salvation can go over the air at all times." --Bro. Andrew Senti

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From Okla.: "I am thankful I can say I am in the kingdom of God and I thank and praise Him for it...I sure enjoyed your message this morning. I appreciate the good thoughts we get from time to time...Trust you are both well in body, and happy in the service of the Lord."

--Sis. Emma Dilley

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From Oregon: "I am writing this for Sis. Spaur as well as myself. We send Christian greetings of love to you and Sis. Frances...Sis. Spaur as you know has had a serious fall and is now almost immobile, can't even turn in her bed. We are very concerned...She has suffered a lot and always been so active. This is really hard on her...I enjoyed my flight to get to the Monark meeting. It truly was a wonderful time for me to meet so many new saints and the weather was real good...I don't think I ever saw so many at the altar. Lucille Trimble and I returned home rejoicing, nothing like being with saints. I truly sat in heavenly places. I stayed at Carrie McMillian's and it was so quiet and restful. I've known her since I was 19 so we really had a happy time together."

--Sis. Grace Jones

From Va.: "My soul is so full today that I must testify. I can't hold it inside. I have to tell someone. The joy and peace that is in my soul is of far greater worth than all the earth's treasures. I have truly found the greatest treasure. I found it in the Lord...I wish that everyone would live for the Lord. This is the greatest wealth that man could obtain." --Nancy Wagoner

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From Calif.: "Time has come again to let you know I still enjoy the Mission Trail and still trusting in my Lord soul and body. To whom could we go but to the Lord. Man can only do so much. But God can do all things, praise our mighty God. We have been having hot weather here." --Sis. Ada Leach

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From Calif.: "The Lord is blessing us richly here in Orland. God's word is our highway to heaven and we must take time to read and pray. If we fail to do this the enemy slips up on us and causes us to lose spiritual fire. He is after every soul he can get. We must be continually watching and praying. We all want to gain heaven and our Lord tells us it is a pressing way, so this makes us to know we have to work hard against the forces of evil. May God stir all of his children to a closer walk with him. I enjoy the Mission Trail very much. May God richly bless you in your work for him. Pray for us as we pray for you. Christian love,"

--Sis. Letha Reece

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From Okla.: "Just a note to say I am still very much encouraged in the Lord. I missed the Monark meeting regretfully. Seems like much good was accomplished. Thank God for that. Do pray for our congregation. God is with us. We are still pressing along together waiting for the Lord to work out our pastor vacancy." --Sis. Theresa Gaines

From La.: "I am sending a little love gift for the Mission Trail. I enjoy reading it more than words can tell so keep sending it to me and keep praying for my family and me."

--Sis. John O. Robertson

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From Okla.: "Thanksgiving unto our God. He has blessed us with rain. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. Psa. 23:1. I heard a sermon on tape on this 23rd Psalm. I truly enjoyed it. It was so good to meet so many of the dear saints at Monark Springs camp meeting. It was good to be there. The Lord blessed in answer to prayer. I think it is really good to pray and seek God's will. Jesus in Matt. 6:9-13: "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." Pray for me and others."

--Sis. Eva Penner

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From Okla.: "I am still living and trusting the dear Lord. Hope you all are encouraged too. I am not through my test, but the Lord is blessing. Still pray for me, that the Lord will bring it out the best way. I am still enjoying reading the Mission Trail." --Sis. Mary May

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From Okla.: "We do appreciate receiving the paper. It is almost like a letter from home...thru' all the years God has been faithful. I was reading last week in a little book of daily devotions, and the thought for the day was, "For God so loved the world, he didn't send a committee." I am thankful he did love us that much. Pray for us as we do you." --Sis. Anna (Fetters) Swann

at press time

we understand:

The Lord blessed greatly in the national camp meeting at Monark Springs held in the month of July. Attendance was unusually good and the number sent in from outside the continental limits of the States really added to the meeting. A great number of souls were at the altar seeking and receiving the help needed to live for God in these perilous days. May the good accomplished continue to last in the days ahead.

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From Mo.: "We were glad you got to attend some of the Hammond, La. camp-meeting and also go back where you had lived years ago and where you prayed by the old magnolia tree. Bro. Willie, that makes me think when I lived in Okla. at a little town named Frisco years ago. I would go out of town out by a big pecan tree and pray. I was praying to be healed of the TB. I prayed for 4 or 5 months and one Sunday morning on Nov. 3rd, 1940 the dear Lord gave me faith to be wonderfully healed and gave me a witness. Bro. Willie, the Lord is so good to us all we never can pay him for what he has done for us."--Bro. F. E. & Sis. Ellen Wilson

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Congratulations to Jerry and Cynthia Meeks on the birth of their daughter August 7, 1978.

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Sister Phebe M. Chandler died August 17, 1978. She was such an outstanding child of God and will be missed greatly. She suffered much under the affliction but her faith was in God. Funeral was held in Green Pastures, Ok., Aug. 21.

It is with sorrow we report that after a lengthy illness Sis. Jewell Whitley, of Marshall, Texas was called to her reward August 5, 1978. Remember in prayer her husband, Bro. Lee as well as their children, grandchildren and other loved ones in this time of great sorrow and loss.

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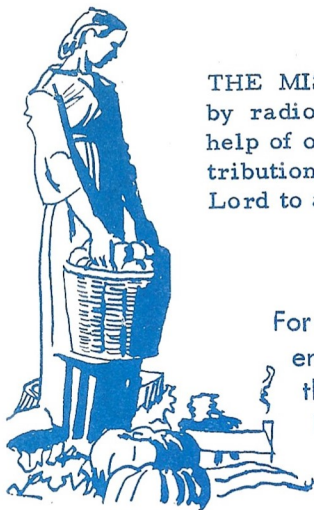
It was a joy for Frances and myself to be in meeting with the dear ones of Gale, Illinois. Sis. Thelma Sprague accompanied us from Guthrie and remained to visit a few days in Grand Tower and DuQuoin. We appreciate the hospitality extended to us while there.

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Godly parents will do well to give much concern about their school-age children as the new season begins. The devil has many traps set for innocent feet. Children should know and beware!

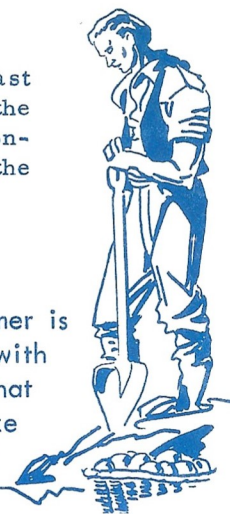
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Many thanks to those who have stood by us in the summer months when at times conditions were very unfavorable for the broadcast reception. As cooler weather comes on we anticipate reception conditions to improve and coverage to be better. Pray for the listeners and for us that we may have something to send forth which will touch their hearts. So much of that which is heard over radio is designed to entertain or to reach the "pocketbooks" with a plea for money. God grant that we may fearlessly declare the truth regardless of the cost! God has worked in the past to supply our needs and we believe he will do so in the future!



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.

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