



The Mission Trail

Box 99

Guthrie, Okla. 73044

Willie C. Murphey • Frances E. Murphey •

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THE MISSION TRAIL

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"God Loveth a Cheerful Giver"

Radio Broadcast for November 16, 1980

Good morning to each and every listener of the broadcast. I don't often speak of giving, but today my thought is that "God Loveth a Cheerful Giver." And He does just that. Giving is a part of the plan of God. It is necessary and folks receive many blessings through giving. Listen to this poem:

How The King Came

Not with the sound of rattling drums,
Nor piercing bugle call:
Not with the wealthy nor the great,
Came Christ the Lord of all.

And not with any outward show,
To earth which He had made--
The King came down, a little child,
In lowly manger laid.

And why so quiet was His birth?
The angels did not know;
And so they asked that they might haste
And spread the news below.

Consent was giv'n and off they flew
On strong and rapid wing;
On Bethlehem's plain they paused awhile
To show how angels sing.

They told the shepherds of their King
Who came in peace to reign;
And then with glad and joyous song
Flew back to heav'n again.

Our King is here and reigns today,
But not on gilded throne;
He lives and reigns in every heart
That claims Him as its own.

No eye can now His kingdom see:
But those who Christ possess
The kingdom find within their hearts--
Joy, Peace and Happiness.

Then open wide each heart today
And bid the King come in;
He'll purify the trusting heart
And there His reign begin.

Now listen to this scripture: "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." 2 Cor. 9:6-7.

I would like to emphasize this "cheerful giver." How do you suppose God gave His Son? Was it grudgingly, or was it with cheerfulness? With cheerfulness no doubt, for He knew it was going to bring in a harvest of souls through salvation. It was because "God so loved" that He gave his son... This then, is the New Testament standard for giving -- as one purposeth in his heart and with cheerfulness! I have picked out a few scriptures and it might prove interesting

to you to know that all of our service to the Lord should be done with cheerfulness. Listen:

"Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness." Romans 12:8. There is nothing quite like bringing "good cheer" to others.

A certain quotation says: "You have not fulfilled every duty unless you have fulfilled that of being pleasant."

God's unchangeable law of sowing and reaping remains the same. Each person receives his pay in his own coin, so to speak. If you smile others will smile in return, if you frown, others will frown in return. If you sing, you are likely to be received cheerfully. If you earnestly seek the good that is in others, you will be received by loving friends, and God will pour into your lap the treasures of a full and rich return. Censure, criticize and hate, and you will be censured, criticized and hated by others. Every seed brings forth after its kind. Mistrust begets mistrust, and confidence begets confidence, kindness begets kindness, and love begets love. Resist and you will be resisted. Jesus said: "For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again!" Luke 6:38. To meet an aggressive assault God's law is sure to rise up rigid and impenetrable--while yonder mountain of granite melts and floats away on the bosom of the river of love.

Good advice for one who has rendered kindness with cheerfulness, would be to remain silent, but he who has received a kindness should speak of it. Think of the times Jesus went about doing good, healing all who were oppressed

of the devil. His life was made up of bringing cheer to others. Listen:

"And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee." --Matt. 9:2. I would say that was a happy day for that man, who was not only healed but forgiven of his sins. Again, the disciples had an experience when they needed some cheering up! "But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid." Matt. 14:24-27. That must have soothed their troubled spirits when Jesus came on the scene. Consider the account Luke gives of this incidence:

"And when the even was come, the ship was in the midst of the sea, and he alone on the land. And he saw them toiling in rowing; for the wind was contrary unto them: and about the fourth watch of the night he cometh unto them, walking upon the sea, and would have passed by them. But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out: For they all saw him, and were troubled. And immediately he talked with them, and saith unto them, Be of good cheer: it is I; be not afraid. And he went up unto them into the ship; and the wind ceased: and they were sore amazed in themselves beyond measure, and wondered." Mark 6:47-51.

Before Jesus was taken away he said to

his disciples: "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33.

When the apostle Paul was in trouble he relied on the comfort and strength of the Lord. His enemies were seeking his life, but his time had not come. Listen: "And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome." Acts 23:11. Another time he was aboard ship and the storm was at sea. Listen to him talking to the sailors: "And now I exhort you to be of good cheer; for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship." Acts 27:22.

Then in verse 25 he came to their rescue through some "good cheer"--"Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me." And finally, in verse 36: "Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took some meat."

There is nothing quite like "good cheer". Listen to what the writer in Proverbs said: "A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken." Prov. 15:13.

Do not keep the alabaster box of your love and tenderness sealed up until your friends are dead. Fill their lives with sweetness. Speak approving, cheering words while their ears can hear them, and while their hearts can be thrilled and made happier. The kind things you mean to say when they are gone, say before they go. The flowers you mean to send for their funeral send to brighten and sweeten their homes before they

leave them. Let us learn to anoint our friends while they are yet among the living. Post-mortem kindness does not cheer the burdened heart; flowers on the casket cast no fragrance backward over the weary way.

And speaking of cheerfulness, may I remind you this has much to do with contentment. The apostle said, "...for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Phil. 4:11. Again, "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content." 1 Tim. 6:6-8. A final scripture on this contentment: "Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Hebrews 13:5.

Let me but do my work day to day
In field or forest, at this desk or loom,
In roaring market place or tranquil room;
Let me but find it in my heart to say,
When vagrant wishes beckon me astray,
This is my work; my blessing, not my
doom,
Of all who live, I am the one by whom
This work can best be done in the right
way!

Then shall I see it not too great, nor
small
To suit my spirit and to prove my powers
Then shall I, cheerful, greet the labor-
ing hours,
And cheerful turn, when the long
shadows fall
At eventide, to meditate, love and rest
Because I know for me my work is best.

It has been written: "That happy state of mind, so rarely possessed, in which

we can say, 'I have enough,' is the highest attainment of philosophy. Happiness consists, not in possessing much but in being content with what we possess. He who wants little always has enough."

Now a scripture of warning: "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment." Eccl. 11:9-10. You see, one may let their own heart "cheer them" but the question is: Have we cheered others? What have we done to lighten their load? What have we done in spreading the gospel in the white fields around us? These are solemn thoughts.

Our Father, as we approach the holiday season with Thanksgiving and Christmas as a time when we think of "good cheer" may we be dedicated to give our time and talents that others may hear, believe and live. Now bless each listener in the way which they have most need and thine shall be the praise through Christ. Amen.

LIFE'S MIRROR

There are loyal hearts, there are spirits
brave,

There are souls that are pure and true;
Then give to the world the best you have,
And the best will come back to you.

Give love, and love to your life will flow,
A strength in your utmost need;
Have faith and a score of hearts will show
Their faith in your word and deed.

For life is the mirror of king and slave,
'Tis just what we are and do;
Then give to the world the best you have,
And the best will come back to you.

Testimonies

From Ohio: "We surely enjoyed the meetings this summer. We were privileged to attend some of Greenbank, Akron, Monark and first through last meeting of Myrtle. What a time of refreshing! How we love the truth and God's people. Oh the Lord has abundantly fought some battles for us of late! Some spiritual and some temporal. Praise the Lord! We owe our life to Him who died for us. I have a scripture today that has been a real help and blessing of late. I call it my scripture. It is Isa. 55:8-9. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Oh how this scripture has been true in my life especially the past few months. When I think of the workings and dealings of the Holy Spirit in people's lives I stand in awe. However He will only work in our lives if we will let Him. I want to live where I will mind the checks. The Lord is precious to me today. I think of the song, "I've proved the Lord and joys abound, more than I could believe." I have proved Him and He is wonderful! He has met my every need and I am confident He will as long as I trust and obey. The Lord is blessing the congregation here. We thank Him for every one. We have some wonderful young people... Pray for us and we would appreciate staying on the mailing list."

--John, Della Gutwein and boys

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From Guthrie: "I appreciate the Lord's dealing with me so much. I can't thank him enough for the way He protects and keeps and helps me every day, every moment." --Sis. Emma Dilley

From La.: "We do not know what the future holds for this old world, but we do know that if we hold fast to God He will take care of the future. It is said of Moses in Heb. 11, that he chose rather to suffer with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season, Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. We have not been too well for some time, but God has blessed us in soul and body. We have a desire and determination to press on for God. Our thought for the day is found in Psalms 43:3--"O send thy light and thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles..." Our holy love to you and all the saints."

--Bro. Max F. Williamson

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From Okla.: "Thankful to say I am redeemed by the blood of the lamb and encouraged to press the battle on."

--Sis. Floy Woolery

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From Penna.: "I do thank God each day for the true saints of God and to know they are my brothers and sisters in the Lord. When one suffers they all suffer and pray for that one. Praise the Lord! Oh! what tragedy in the last Mission Trail. We never know when we leave home if we will return or not. Those young lives taken and leaving grieving families and relatives. Thank God they were Christian young ladies. I am glad they were ready. Our young people today in the world are looking for pleasures to fill the longing for God. They aren't taught by parents and so don't know. If they go to church on Sun. they have fulfilled their duty, so they think. God help all of them to find our loving Savior some way is my prayer."

--Sis. Eva Cox

From Calif.: "We had three nights meeting Friday, Saturday and Sunday this past week end. Bro. & Sis. Wilson came down and Sis. Betty Grable from Canada and some more from Pacoima, Jefferson and Canada. Four souls were saved. We received wonderful blessings to our souls. It is a precious thought to know four more souls are saved from torment through eternity. The narrow way grows brighter to me day by day. My Saviour is my helper and my joy continually. I could not make it without Jesus. We have to press our way onward daily against the forces of evil. Our Lord promised to go with us all the way. I am determined to make heaven my home with our Lord helping us we can gain heaven. I continue to enjoy the Mission Trail."

--Sis. Letha Reece

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From Minn.: "This finds me well for which I thank the Lord and all the saints and their prayers for me and all of God's people. In about 2 months I will be 94 years of age. Praise the Lord. We are having nice weather here in Minneapolis, but we are sure to have cold weather soon. I still love the Lord and do His good will as the days go by so swiftly. We will soon be at Home with Jesus forever. What a wonderful thought. Present with Jesus who died that we might have life more abundantly. Glory to God in the highest."

--Bro. Andrew Senti

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From Mo.: "I believe in talking about death--that's an important part of our life--getting ready for death. I'm sure not one to wait till it's facing me before I prepare. I'm working on that every day. I believe we are nearing the end any way. Everyone would be preparing to meet God."

--Sis. Thelma Busbee

From Kansas: "I surely enjoyed your message this morning on honesty. The world is so destitute of honesty. We are having nice weather. I am sure it is "Indian Summer"...No matter what happens to us it is so precious to trust in God. He is so good to us...It seems as if death is calling quite often at the saints' homes. Oh how it pays to be ready. One moment too late would send our souls to hell for ever, how terrible. ...We pray God's great blessings upon you both." --Sis. Mamie Norcutt

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From Calif.: "Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ...he is real, real in my soul. I'm walking with him daily, fighting by his grace to glorify his name the few more days we have left in this wicked world...my soul is rejoicing in the redemption of my never dying soul ... we must live eternally some place...Heaven or Hell. Keep proclaiming it to a lost world. Our Lord is coming soon. He is going to call this world to a halt. Time will be finished. Then this world will be awakened to face an Almighty God... Christian love," --Sis. Hazel Clark

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From Tenn.: "We are thankful for what the Lord has done, and is doing for us. He has answered prayer and met some recent needs, in a wonderful way, for which we are truly grateful and appreciative. Please remember us in prayer, and may the Lord continue to bless and reward your work and labors for Him."

--Bro. Charles B. Williams

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From Mo.: "We are very well and happy in the Lord. He is a present help in time of need. His word we can depend upon at all times. It is forever settled in heaven. We so enjoy the broadcast. It is so encouraging to our souls. Keep the good work going."

--Sis. Elizabeth Glass

From Kansas: "My heart is fixed and my affections set on things above, and I don't intend to settle for anything short of heaven. With iniquity abounding we certainly have to press but I am willing to fight the good fight of faith. May the Lord help as many of us as possible to fight the good fight of faith and endure to the end." --Sis. Shirley Knight

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From Ala.: "We are thankful for the many blessings that the Lord bestows upon us day by day...I truly believe that time is short and what ever we do for the Lord must be done now."

--Sis. Irene Richardson

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From Pa.: "I am thankful today for the wonderful privilege of being a child of God. I am still happy in the Lord and his service. My heart is much encouraged to press the journey on. My prayer is that these few lines find you and Sis. Frances doing just fine. I'm moving out of the state of Pa. I still want to receive The Mission Trail. My new address is Mrs. Mary Johnson, Rt. 1, Box 110C, Mt. Vernon, Ga. 30445. If any of the saints ever pass my way I welcome them to stop and spend some time or just stop by or over...Are there any saints that you know of in this area? If you do please let me know where. Pray for my brother and me, as we make this move to Ga. We are trusting in the Lord."

--Sis. Mary Johnson

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From Okla.: "This morning in worship I read Gal. 5. I truly want to stand fast in the Liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free. I desire your prayers also for different causes. The Lord knows all about. May God bless the dear children in a special way. Thanksgiving unto our God for all His love and kindness and long suffering."

--Sis. Eva Penner

at press time

we understand:

IN MEMORY -- FARON ALLEN

On November 7th, little Faron seemed especially cheerful and happy. How little did his parents know that it was this day the Lord was going to call Faron home to himself. It all happened so suddenly when he slipped from an open-bed trailer that night. Norman, Rhenda and their five children had moved to Monark campground last summer to be caretakers. Remember them in this great sorrow: Route 7, Box 368, Neosho, Mo. 64850.



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From Ga.: "I received your kind letter. It came at a sad time and I appreciate it so much as my husband Sygman R. Sloan passed away Oct. 21st. He told me years ago...he was saved and he was baptised. We were so far away we didn't go often...I believe he is at rest. We need your prayers." Sis. Ray Sloan

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It is with sorrow that we announce the death of Bro. E. B. Weir. Raton, N. Mex. on Nov. 1st. If he had lived until Nov. 21st he would have been 97 years of age. Until recent years he often made trips to Guthrie to attend Assembly or camp meetings.

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Congratulations to Mancil and Shirley Doolittle on the birth of their son Oct. 31st. "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord:" Psalms 127:3.

Dear Saints: ...Would you please announce our fifth Sunday all day service at 718 N. Kansas in Springfield, Mo. on November 30th.

--Springfield Congregation

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Yet another saint has finished her race and gone to be with the Lord. Sister Mamie Flynn, Loranger, La., died on November 1st. Her responsibility was heavy, since her husband is afflicted and requires daily care. Remember Bro. Dallas Flynn in his affliction and sorrow. Route 1, Loranger, La. 70446.

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From Calif.: "My dear wife is very weak...it's all in his hands. He has blessed us for 56 years the 26th of last August. We sure need your prayers."

--Bro. Sam Abbott

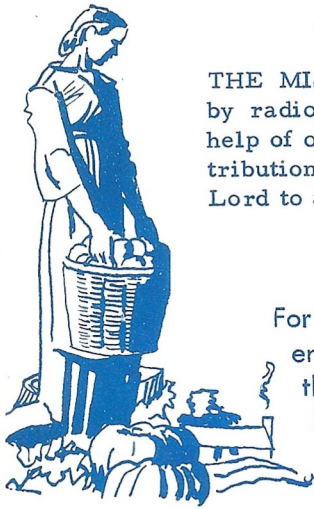
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From Okla.: "Trust you are much encouraged with the blessings of God each day. We want to count our blessings more and more knowing our God can take care of everything...Enjoyed the message from Coffeyville this last Sunday, so encouraging -- "Living one day at a time." I am thankful for the gospel that goes out on the printed page. It's been real food to my soul down through the years. We look forward and enjoy The Mission Trail paper..."

--Sis. Cassie Wilson

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Oklahoma State Assembly meeting begins December 26, continuing through January 4th. We pray all the saints may have happy holidays and the peace of the Lord within their hearts.



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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

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KGGF	Coffeyville, Kansas	690 kc.	Sunday, 8:00 a.m.

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