FULL GOSPEL BUSINESS MEN'S
VOICE
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CHALLENGED!

the ELMER LEWIS story • see page two

Full Gospel Business Men's

VOICE

Volume 23 **Number 1**

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ONE OF FIVE CHILDREN, I was born in Ironton, Ohio and grew up during the Depression years. Without even some of the material necessities and without a knowledge of the Lord, I was easily led into worldly temptations. As a young man, working on the railroad, I began to have a fear of the future and was laden with a burden of guilt. I couldn't sleep well and began to be convicted of the necessity to make a change in my life.

The Beginning of a New Life

That change came in 1941 when I was in my early twenties. A friend invited me to attend an evangelistic meeting in a Nazarene sub-mission church in Columbus, Ohio. The evangelist gave a beautiful message and the Lord got hold of my heart.

CHALLENGED!

by ELMER LEWIS

International Director, Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship, Denver, Colorado

When the invitation came to accept Jesus Christ, I knew this was what I needed, and I experienced the new birth. Staying on the railroad for a period of time following my conversion, it was my privilege to witness to each of my former drinking and partying buddies of the new life I had found in Jesus Christ. It was the beginning of a life gradually turned over to the full-time spreading of the Gospel in a lay ministry.

Hearing of the baptism in the Holy Spirit, I began to seek this experience. Consequently soon after my conversion I met Jesus as Baptizer and received the power to witness and the boldness and desire to share the Good News message. Marriage and the birth of three sons followed. Fortunately, Eva Lee, my wife of 32 years, shares with me this common love for the Lord, and understands my need to be away so much, answering calls to share the gifts the Lord has given me so abundantly. It is only in her willingness to share me in this ministry that I am free to meet the

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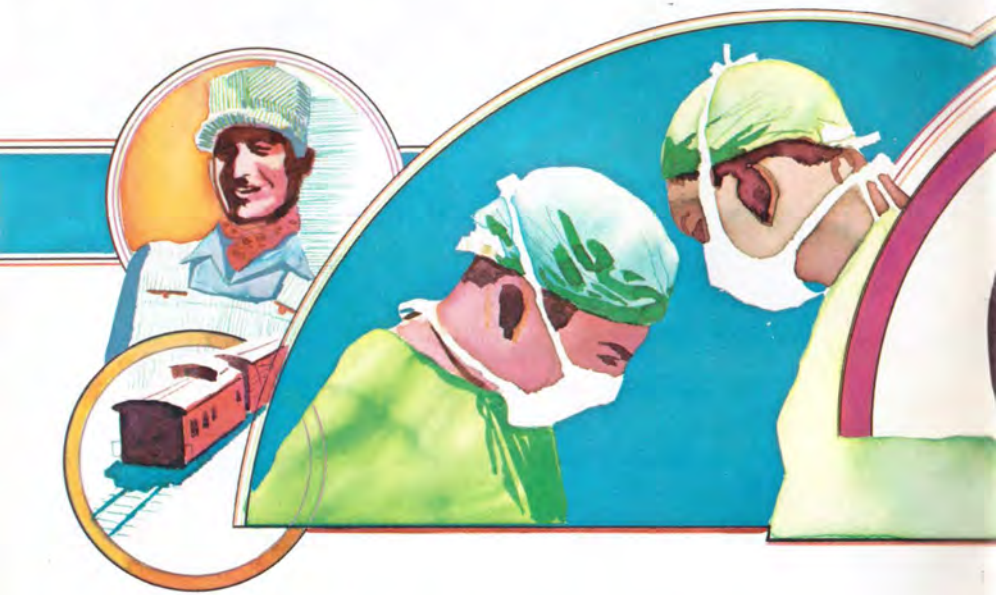
DURING THE PAST 33 years, Elmer Lewis has lived a life of obedience to the Lord, trusting Him for everything. The challenge of meeting the Lord's leadings led him from the contracting business into the motel and retail furniture business, and last year into full time Christian service. Elmer's life is a testimony of what the Lord can do with one man who is willing to trust Him and yield his life completely to Him.



My life has been a series

increasingly numerous requests for my presence both in and out of Colorado.

Challenged to Pray for the Sick

Early in my Christian walk, the Lord began to challenge me through a series of visions to pray for the sick. Not feeling my calling was to be a minister but rather a Christian businessman, I was puzzled and questioning as to how the Lord was leading. An answer soon came, confirming in my heart the direction I was to take.

During an evening mid-week service in the Full Gospel church I attended, a woman came to request the minister to go with her to the hospital to pray for her dying son. In the minister's absence, I was conducting the service and agreed to go. In the hospital, I found the family gathered and the young man desperately pleading for prayer. The boy was crying, "Mother, pray!" but she said, "I can't." Then he asked his sister, "Please pray!" but she said

# of spiritual challenges...

she didn't know how. He looked at me and I said, "I'll pray." It was clear the young man didn't know the Lord and we first prayed the prayer of salvation, then offered prayer for healing of his body. When I left the hospital, I said, "Lord, I don't understand why I've had these visions of seeing the sick healed, but I'm going to put you to the test. Seven doctors have said this man can't live. If you'll raise him up, I'll know I'm to pray for the sick." Within two weeks the young man was dismissed from the hospital, well and strong.

My Ministry Was Expanded

Since that time, I have answered the call to pray for the sick without question, and have been invited to hold monthly teaching and healing meetings in my home church in Arvada, Colorado as well as in a Presbyterian church in Denver. Wonderful miracles of healing have occurred. An assistant pastor's wife in the Presbyterian church was healed of excruciating pain from kidney stones as the

Elmer Lewis, second from right, in his role as an international director of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship, presents the charter to the Loveland, Colorado chapter. From left, Dick Lenhardt, Arndd Jeslin, Glen Lewallen, Virgil Williams (president), Lewis, and Lynn Orr.

Lord touched her and dissolved the stones. A week later, in my home church, the Lord used me in a confirming healing touch on a young woman also suffering from kidney stones.

My love for all of God's people has led me on many trips into Mexico, carrying food, clothing, and the Good News of God's mighty power. On the first such trip, a stop in Nu Laredo provided the chance to share through an interpreter at a local church. At the close of the message, the pastor brought his wife who had been deaf since birth. After prayer, the Lord immediately opened her ears. On the return trip, after five days into the interior of the country, we again stopped at the church. A 12-year-old girl was brought for prayer; her left arm being three to four inches shorter than the other due to shoulder surgery when she was three. After prayer, the Lord immediately lengthened the arm to its normal size. What a beautiful confirmation of Mark 16:18 ". . . they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover."

FGBMFI Was a Major Factor

The FGBMFI has been a major factor in my life, touching and guiding my ministry since my first introduction to it in 1954. At the invitation of C. C Ford, I attended the first meeting ever held in Denver, a meeting so large it was held in Mammoth Gardens, a skating pavillion. Wonderful men of God were there, all on fire for the Lord, and their testimonies challenged my heart. I said, "Lord, what you have done for them, you can do for me." Continued attendance at the meetings brought continued challenge. In 1963 I was elected vice president of the Denver chapter, then was elected to the office

of chapter president and finally to that of international director.

Challenged on My Spiritual Stand

It was during one of the FGBMFI meetings that a man asked me how I stood before the Lord spiritually. I replied I had been a Christian since 1941, but the man persisted and again asked, "But how do you stand spiritually before the Lord?" This time my reply was, "Well, I've received the baptism in the Holy Spirit." Then I realized I was being challenged in that conversation. The Lord was using that man to help me take a step ahead.

I could pray in tongues and could claim the baptism in the Holy Spirit, but I knew I had never had the experience described in John 7:37,38 of receiving the "rivers of living water." As I listened to the testimonies of the businessmen telling of their rivers of living water, I knew I needed a river from God, too. I went into the next meeting and asked the Lord to refill me with his Holy Spirit and to give me my river. He did! For three days and nights I spoke in another language; God had granted me the desire of my heart. Everywhere I go, I find people need to be challenged with those same words, "How do you stand with the Lord spiritually?"

The working of the Lord in my life has been no less dramatic in the life of my son, Chuck. Born with a serious curvature of the spine, resulting in weakened muscles supporting his head and upper torso, Chuck developed a serious inferiority complex. In spite of a supportive family, facing people—even visitors in his own home—filled him with real fear and embarrassment.

Challenged Through My Son

After attending a Denver regional FGBMFI convention with me in 1968, Chuck, then 16 years old, admitted he needed the Baptism. Having assumed all my sons had received this wonderful filling of the Holy Spirit, I was surprised at the request, but immediately parked the car and encouraged him to ask the Lord to baptize him. He was gloriously filled and given a beautiful prayer language.

Shortly thereafter, Chuck was called into the ministry and entered Bible College. This formerly introverted young man now ministers with the boldness and joy of the Lord. The healing of his body which began that day is nearly completed. The spine is straight; only a slight weakness in his neck muscles remain. "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5:17). Chuck's outreach encompasses working with ministries in the Philippines, Africa, Cuba and Haiti as well as with Life Foundation in Colorado, a ministry in which I also participate.

The Lord blesses obedience, and I give all the glory to Him for the miracles that follow my ministry. ■

"I still wanted to keep my hands on the 'steering wheel' of my life!"

WRIGHT WAS WRONG

(Until I made Christ Lord of my life!)

by TOM WRIGHT

Founder-President of Global Outreach, Dallas, Texas

I'M A METHODIST that got saved by a bumper sticker! In reality, I had already accepted Christ as *Saviour* but never made Him *Lord* in my life.

I was brought up in a normal Christian home. My parents were very active in the Methodist church and I was trained in the ways of that church and went through the typical experiences of a boy growing up in church and Sunday school.

Twelve was the traditional age that everyone "got saved" in our church. It was the thing expected of one at that age. In the sixth grade they put all the twelve-year-olds through a six-week course and instructed us how to get saved. We memorized the One Hundredth Psalm and the Apostle's Creed, and had to learn how to respond in the proper manner when we went up front to be given the right hand of fellowship.

It was a very wonderful experience at the time, but as I went on through life my heart grew cold toward the church—it just didn't do anything for me. I was quite shy and found difficulty in becoming part of a group, and I had no special friend. I didn't even understand *why* I was attending church. There was definitely something missing from my life.

Finally I went off to college. Because my father was in the pharmaceutical business and I had been prac-

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TOM WRIGHT majored in Pharmacy and related subjects while in college, and has an extensive background in science and mathematics. Before entering the ministry in December 1971, he functioned in all phases of ethical pharmaceutical practice including research, manufacturing, product development, marketing and management. Involved for a time in the sale of resort and commercial real estate, he developed a unique lease guarantee policy which today is in use in 48 states.

tically raised in it, I determined to study pharmacy. I did have a sincere desire to do something good for humanity, and even considered taking over the company when my father retired. However, during my first year in college Dad sold the company and I had to do some real soul-searching to find out if I wanted to go on studying pharmacy. I continued in it principally because I didn't have enough nerve to venture out into any other area.

They Were Unusual Characters

At college I lived in the dormitory and had a very lonely time, especially during my freshman year. Circumstances were such that I didn't have an automobile, and a boy in that college without a car was in bad shape. Also I was still prone to keep my eyes on the toes of my shoes and really hadn't discovered there was a complete new world out there if only I'd raise my sights a little.

One Friday evening there was a football game and almost everyone in the dorm had gone to it except me, because I knew no one to invite to go with me. So I was sitting around in my room pretending to study but really feeling sorry for myself when there came a knock at my door. I opened it and three fellows introduced themselves and asked if they could come in. I said, "Sure, why not?"

Those young fellows were from Bryon, Texas and seemed to be very unusual characters. One began to tell me about having spent the last year and a half in Huntsville, the city that houses the Texas State prison. The second one began to tell about having been convicted of armed robbery and having used drugs. The third said *he* had done all those things, too, but hadn't been caught at it. Silently I wondered how I had gotten into that situation!

As I tried to figure out why they were there, they began to tell me the second part of their story—how their lives had been changed—how something had happened to them when they had a personal experience with the Lord Jesus Christ that had changed them completely and reversed the direction of their lives.

I Had Lived a Good Life

They asked me if I was saved, and I answered in a very prideful way, "Certainly! I was saved at the age of twelve."

They left then, but I had an empty feeling inside me that I didn't know how to explain. Even from that brief contact I knew they had something I didn't have. I had lived a good life, really wasn't a wild kid, was interested in doing something good for humanity—yet there was still a hole right in the very center of my being that needed filling.

My roommate was a good Baptist boy who had witnessed to me on a number of occasions. He kept a Bible

"Jesus said, 'Go into all the world and be witnesses unto me.' Our job is to tell the Good News; His job is to convict, convert, and empower those who hear."

on his desk, and since he had gone to the football game I picked it up and began to read. Between the covers of that book I found the most fantastic stories! I've read it time and again since, and studied the promises and the stories it has to tell, and it is still new and exciting and fills me with awe and wonder.

Instantly He Was There

Over a period of weeks God began to reveal to me Jesus Christ as Saviour. One day there came a very quiet moment. It wasn't in a church. I didn't go down an aisle to an altar. When I called on Him, Jesus came right into my dormitory room! There was no pomp or tradition or flag waving or soft background music. I cried out to God, admitted there was something missing in my life, and that I needed Him. Instantly He was there. It was wonderful—just as though He had been waiting for days, months, and years for me to open the door and invite Him in.

I went on through college, entered the pharmaceutical business, became involved in research and for a time it seemed to be my calling—until I realized that pharmacy wasn't "where is was at" for me. There was still something missing from my life. I left the pharmaceutical field and went in search of an occupation—tried real estate and various other enterprises—even a period of working as an advisor for H. L. Hunt. It was a tremendous experience, but somehow I couldn't see my future in that area and began to cast about for direction.

I Was Headed for Nashville

At that time the country music business seemed a good and growing line to get into. I bought a guitar and the book that came with it, learned a few

chords, could sing a couple of songs —and decided I'd go to Nashville and make a record, for a starter. After that I planned to make a movie, following which I felt that all kinds of good things were going to happen in my life. This was my dream of the future.

One day I was in the music store buying some music and was just ready to walk out when I heard somebody playing the guitar as I had never heard it played before. There, sitting on a stool playing the guitar was one of the biggest black men I had ever seen—about six foot seven and weighing some 275 pounds. We became acquainted, strummed a few tunes together to the delight of a little crowd that gathered around for a toe-tapping, hand-clapping time. The man said his name was Boston, and he invited me out to join a little group that played at the church on Sunday evening. I saw no harm in that—figured they had rented a hall and were having a jam session.

Instantly I Knew I Was In Trouble

When I pulled up in front of that rustic little place Sunday evening, I instantly knew I was in trouble because the sign on the front said "Pentecostal Church—Frank Boston, Elder." The thought of backing out entered my mind, but the front door was open and Elder Boston had seen me and was waving for me to come in. By that time in my life I had come out of my shell a bit, had done a little work in community endeavors and been involved in a little public speaking. So when Elder Boston asked me to say a few words during the evening I agreed to do so. The group began to sing, and it was lovely music. This turned out to be an old-fashioned Church of God in Christ group, and the Christian love that radiated from those people was warm and wonderful.

"Put Your Eyes On Jesus!"

After the service had started Elder Boston called me outside and much to my surprise began to prophesy that I was going to become a preacher. The prophecy didn't get to me at first. When the elder called on me to speak I chose the subject that seemed natural under the circumstances: *Effective Communications Through Race Relations.* I had been exposed to some of Dr. Martin Luther King's work and had heard his now-famous sermon, "I Had a Dream." I probably duplicated a lot of what he said, but I got so caught up in that meeting that I began to literally fulfill the elder's prophecy. I pounded the pulpit and the people got to shouting, and the more they shouted the more I pounded the pulpit. Then the music started, someone handed me a guitar, and I got in on a chorus of "Glory, Hallelujah" and "When I Lay My Burden Down." Somebody said, "Put your eyes on Jesus!" I did

—and was baptized in the Holy Spirit right there!

Back home my friends began to ask if I felt all right, and what had happened to me. I really didn't know *what* had happened. I might say right here that I'm still a Methodist in good standing, but I must admit that I would go to Elder Boston's church as often as possible to worship and have a good time praising God.

Four Very Important Words

I finally became involved in personal development—helping people to establish goals and do something with their life. For a time everything went well, then one day everything seemed to go wrong, and I didn't have the answer to what was the trouble. Going alone to a motel to spend the night, I picked up the Gideon Bible on the bedside table. In the front was a list of Scriptural answers to specific problems. I read them all—*and every one of them applied to me!* As I read passage after passage God began to speak to me. The more I read, the louder His voice became inside of me and He said, "You must tell this story." I had come close to telling it, but God revealed to me that night that I had left out four very important words: *Jesus Christ, Lord* and *Saviour*. That was the missing ingredient. At that moment I knew Elder Boston's prophecy would be fulfilled in reality.

Driving down Central Expressway, I looked at a bumper sticker on the car ahead and its message hit me right where I lived: "You may know Jesus, but have you accepted Him as your Saviour?" Oh, I knew Jesus. I had accepted Him as my Saviour and had been baptized in the Holy Spirit, but *I hadn't made Him Lord of my life!* I wasn't turning my life over to Him. I still wanted to keep my hands on the steering wheel. When my heart got that message I felt the burden lift. Consequently I have boosted bumper stickers ever since, because that was what jolted me out of my self-satisfaction and made me realize my error. So I quit my job and went out on the road preaching.

He Pointed In My Direction

There were still a good many deep valleys, some of them very dark, through which I had to pass before I really began to grow in spiritual stature. One of the things I had to learn was humility and how to be submissive to God and to the leading of the Holy Spirit. I went to a Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship regional convention in Dallas, Texas. An evangelist spoke, then began to pray for a long line of people. Suddenly he stopped and said, "Just a minute. God has an appointment for me right out there," and he pointed in my direction. He had never seen me or I him, but the Holy Spirit led him unerringly to me and he said,

"You're a minister and you've got questions on your heart right now regarding your ministry." Then he prayed a prayer I'll never forget: "Father, as you would not have your own Son doubt, so be it with this man." And suddenly I was slain by the Spirit! It was as though a thousand-watt bulb suddenly lighted up inside me and God had given me every answer—had given me direction—had shown me where to go and what to do regarding my new ministry.

About that time I got married and became even more involved in the ministry. My wife's religious background was Church of Christ. The first thing I tried to do was prove God to her, but I found out that didn't work; she and I got further and further apart. I cried out, "What's wrong Lord?" and He let me know I had the wrong attitude. You see, only God can reveal Himself to the heart of another person. There is no word that I could speak that will convince you of God's existence or even of His miracle power. Only He can do that. During that period I found out what it meant to be submissive. I had been running around preaching, "Wives, submit to your husbands." But one day I read the Epistle of Peter and found that it said, "Husbands, love your wives." It wasn't until I found out the secret hidden in that passage that things "got together" in my home.

I figured then that I had it made—but found out it was just the beginning. The hardest blow of all came when I found out that God didn't really need me and what I was doing. That was difficult to absorb at first. I had left my job, left everything I knew, put aside my college training, ventured out on faith into this thing and dedicated my life—and then God told me that He didn't really need me. I began to pray and ask the Lord about it and He responded, "*What I need is your yielded spirit.*" Oh, that can be a humbling but enlightening experience!

There was another lesson I had to learn. I was a fanatic when I started out. All I could think of or talk about was Jesus. There's nothing wrong with that except when you get out into the world you can make yourself so socially unacceptable that you'll never get the opportunity to witness. There must be wisdom in what we do. The first call God has laid upon our life is to be witnesses for Him, and if we run around turning the entire world off, people who have not received the revelation of the reality of God in their heart will flip the switch and turn *us* off. The Master never told us we had to go out and convert and convince every living soul we meet. He said, "Go into all the world and be witnesses unto me." If we tell the Good News, and live it, God's Holy Spirit will take care of convicting, converting, blessing and empowering lives. That's *His* job—not *ours*. ■

I THOUGHT I NEEDED A DOCTOR, BUT...

GOD SENT A LAWYER

Bill Allen (left) and Paul Yarbrough

by BILL ALLEN

Owner, Lincoln-Mercury Agency, Weatherford, Texas

OURS WAS the typical Christian home in Oklahoma. My father didn't attend church much but my mother did and I did—as long as she made me go. When I grew too big to be *taken* to church, I stopped going and got completely away from God. However, God never forsook me.

I joined the Air Force during World War II and used to think I was the luckiest guy in the service when I was flying those missions over Germany in a B-17. But it wasn't luck —it was God riding beside me with His hand on my shoulder.

I've been in the automobile busi-

BILL ALLEN and his assistant Paul Yarbrough distribute 200 VOICE magazines each month through Bill's automobile agency. A current copy is placed in the glove compartment of every car sold, whether new or used.

ness since 1947. In 1965 I had what was probably one of the greatest opportunities a man could have. I took over a financially troubled agency in Fort Worth. In a very short time it became one of the largest, if not the largest Volkswagen dealerships in the state of Texas. I thought it was through my efforts alone, but the Lord finally taught me otherwise. He had to bring me down to where I got off of this "ego trip"—to where I was humble and grateful. I found out that the Lord will bless us and then, perhaps, remove the blessings for a time until we realize our own insufficiency. God doesn't want us to be supine, helpless creatures, but He does know what is best for us and wants us to lean on Him when we need help.

Anyway, through a series of bad accidents and a lot of serious trouble that started with a man being killed on my boat, I completely "lost my cool" and my perspective. Instead of going to the Source where I knew the answer was, I turned to the bottle. I didn't realize that I had become an alcoholic until 1973. By that time I had gone the whole route—all the way down—one step after another. My first wife had passed away and I was living alone in an apartment.

Two years ago in December I was in a private club—one of those finer ones that I now refer to as "upholstered sewers." I had been drinking since about ten o'clock that morning, and picked a fight with a friend of mine who had just gotten out of the hospital and was going back for open heart surgery. I hit bottom that night, but somehow I got home.

"Although I had no desire to live . . .

The next morning I woke up with the realization that I needed help. Kneeling beside my bed I cried to God for mercy, and undeserving as I was, He answered my prayer. In fact, He had already been busy helping me even before I called, for He had given me a Christian secretary. I went to the office that morning and admitted, "Lee, I'm sick and need help. Perhaps I should see a psychiatrist."

The distressing thing was that, although I had no *desire* to live, yet I had every *reason* to live, and this was very frustrating. I thought maybe a psychiatrist could explain it, but that apparently wasn't the Lord's plan. Picking names at random from the telephone book, I began calling psychiatrists but none had an opening available for at least a month. I didn't know until later that all the time I was

calling, my secretary was in her office praying that I wouldn't get an appointment! God answered her prayers.

Finally she said, "There is a man downtown you may want to talk to. His name is Odell McBrayer. He's a lawyer."

. . . *yet I had every reason to live!*"

"Lee," I objected, "I don't *need* a *lawyer*. I need a *doctor*." But she insisted that this man had helped some people, so I went to his office.

Following introductions and some small talk, Odell asked, "Bill, what's your trouble?" I opened my mouth and the whole sordid story poured out. He listened patiently, then said, "Bill, all you need is Jesus. If you invite Jesus to come in and live in your heart and be Lord of your life, He will solve all your problems."

I was a desperate man, and willing to heed his advice, so we began to pray for my salvation. When we had finished it was as the scripture says—"old things pass away and all things become new." That is what happened to me. I became "a new creature in Christ Jesus."

I asked Odell if a man had to go to church to be a Christian. He said that going to church wouldn't make a man a Christian, though it could help toward that goal, but that if we have Jesus in our heart, *wherever* we are, God is. Then he said, "But why do you ask?" I told him that for seven years I'd been playing golf with a certain group every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. and I hated to break up the group. You see, my early teaching had been that you *don't do* this and you *must do* that to avoid going to hell. He said, "I can understand that," but there was a knowing smile on his lips.

That was over two years ago and I haven't played golf on Sunday morning since! Every time the church opens, I want to be there, and it takes a good deal more than a golf game to keep me away. My life has completely changed. Plus all this the Lord has given me a beautiful and wonderful wife.

Isn't it tremendous that we have a God who cares? We try everything in the world—the money route, the whisky route, the wine-women-and-song route, and perhaps even the drug route—and after all these have failed, *we turn at last to God and He's there!* Right at the point of our greatest need, He's there. He's been there all the time, inviting and waiting

CORRECTION: The price for VOICE bulk orders overseas (Dec. issue, p. 32) **should** have read, **"$11.00** overseas."

patiently for us to turn to Him. Then He picks us up, cleans us up and puts us on our feet and sends us on *His* way. It's no longer *our* way, but *His*.

I'm not a preacher. I'm a Christian businessman living by faith from day to day out in the marts of trade. Not many times in a century does an Oral Roberts, a Billy Graham, or a Demos Shakarian appear on the scene to minister to the needs of humanity. These and others are doing God's work; but when you think about it, it's you and I talking to someone else —the personal touch—out on the street or in the shop or office—that reaches the vast multitude of the unchurched. It is life touching life for Jesus. This is our commission. That is what Jesus told us to do.

It is theologically true that Christians are not of this world, but we are *in* this world and we are here for a purpose. We must tell others about the love of Jesus and about the salvation He offers to whosoever will. This means calling on your next-door neighbor or talking to a business associate who doesn't know Jesus. It means talking to your son who doesn't go to church with you, or to your unsaved daughter, or aunt, or uncle, or parents.

This is our job! This is what we must do. We *must* be about our Father's business! ■

JANUARY TAPE MINISTRY

1974 FGBMFI World Convention, St. Louis, Missouri

☐ 74WC7-17, **Dr. Douglas Roberts,** "Family Relations"; ☐ 74WC7-18, **Joe Poppell,** Healing Service; ☐ 74WC7-19, **Oral Roberts,** "Ministering One to Another"; ☐ 74WC7-21, **Ken Copeland,** "Faith of God"; ☐ 74WC7-22, **Harald Bredesen,** Banquet Message.

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VOICE ECHOES

My husband and I became recipients of your magazine several years ago, before we had accepted the Lord. Our pastor had it sent to our home. It was a long, long time before we ever read any of them, but now we eagerly wait each month for VOICE. I read it from cover to cover and receive wonderful blessings from the Lord each time. I never can decide who should receive our copy when we are finished with it, so we are going to share this wonderful blessing, VOICE, with our friends and relatives by sending each of them a subscription.

Mrs. E.K., Walsh, Illinois

There was a time when VOICE magazine was tossed aside with the thought in mind, "I'll read it later." But after becoming engrossed in one of the issues, I can hardly wait now for the next issue to arrive. I consider VOICE to be manna from heaven—food for body, mind, and soul. The testimonies are so wonderful and I am made to marvel at the greatness of God and His goodness to mankind.

One thing I really appreciate about the VOICE is that it speaks in a language any age can understand. I have a teen-age daughter who reads the magazine and loves it as much as I do. Here is my renewal along with five more subscriptions to my relatives and friends. I am also sharing my copies with friends after I finish reading them.

Thanks for an up-to-date publication, and keep up the good work for Jesus.

Mrs. J.H., Springfield, Missouri

THE CHRISTIAN'S WILL

God's Will Provided For Your Salvation (see Hebrews, chapters 9 and 10).

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V175

The NOW of the Harvest

by DEMOS SHAKARIAN

International President

Full Gospel

Business Men's Fellowship

AS A DAIRYMAN-FARMER and a grower of alfalfa and grain, I am very conscious of the fact that when a field is "ripe unto harvest" it must be reaped *then*. One cannot wait until the next month or year, for by then the season will have passed.

During the harvest the farmer and his helpers work early and late as they race against time. But once the crop is gathered in, then thunder and lightning, rain and frost can come and it makes no difference because the harvest is safe.

I have a strong feeling that this year of 1975 will be the time of the greatest harvest of human souls that we have ever seen. I look upon these days of our years as "the time of

harvest." We have had many seasons —two thousand years of them—but no generation has ever reached the total world.

The Whole World Can Be Reached!

Ours is a fantastic age. We are living in the Holy Spirit dispensation and for the first time we see the possibility—with the knowledge, the inspiration, the dedication of men, and the quickening presence of the Holy Spirit—that the whole world can be reached with the Gospel.

There has never been a time when men were so dedicated to whatever they may be doing. It took dedication to reach the moon—to discover atomic power—to develop the tremendous communications media. Good or corrupt, men are dedicated and willing to die for the causes they espouse. And God is raising up *His* people who are dedicated to and willing to die for *His* cause as never before.

"God, What Can I Do?"

This is the generation when Christians are ready and willing to dedicate themselves to God regardless of what the cost may be—their jobs, their family relationships, their pastorates, or even personal humiliation. This is the day when bridges are being built between church denominations, because individual dedication to Jesus Christ is so deep and strong that doctrinal differences can no longer divide believers. Each is looking into his own heart and asking, "God, what can I do to help in this great harvest time?"

What we need today is a tremendous, sweeping revival. Everyone *must* hear the Gospel at least once. That is what our Lord meant about the Gospel being preached to every nation, tribe, and tongue before His return. He has put into the hands of this generation the means and the knowledge and the know-how to spread the Gospel message over wider and ever wider areas with greater and increasing speed and impact.

A Global Impact

We *must* get the harvest in right now! This is why the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship has launched a tremendous new program of world-wide outreach, in which our projection for 1975 is to reach one and a quarter billion people for Christ —by means of VOICE magazine and our other publications, GOOD NEWS television, radio programs, teaching and prayer seminars, and expanded overseas ministry.

What I have said before (VOICE, September 1974) bears repeating in this, the first issue of 1975: "This (outreach) will truly be the fulfilling of a promise from God (my vision of 21 years ago)—a global impact with the Full Gospel message of Jesus Christ." ■

"OBSERVATION SUNDAYS"

"I became fed up with the endless host of them, and felt pressed to either discover the power of the Holy Spirit or leave the ministry."

by DR. JAMES CLAYTON PIPPIN

Pastor, Charismatic Christian Fellowship, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

BEFORE BEING FILLED with the Holy Spirit I knew that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, grew up in Nazareth, was run out of His own hometown, did many miracles and was nailed to a cross in Jerusalem. I knew that at Pentecost, some fifty days later, something important happened, but wasn't exactly sure what—only that it needed to be preached upon and observed.

My Observation Platform

For twenty years Pentecost was observed in my church—we had an annual observation Sunday and my observation platform was the pulpit! I always conjured up some kind of sermon about Pentecost but could never really tell any one how to be filled with the Holy Spirit, not having been filled myself. I had only been baptized in water. In those days, on typical Sunday mornings at First Christian Church in Oklahoma City I preached "in the round"—round and round the topic without ever getting to the brass tacks of telling it like it is.

Further testimonies of Christian Church ministers and laymen appear in the latest FGBMFI publication, "The Acts of the Holy Spirit Among the DISCIPLES OF CHRIST Today." See page 33 for details.

On January 5, 1972 I looked up at the stars and prayed, "Lord, here am I. Send me." Something had to happen for the better because I was getting bored with my own worship service. Many other people in First Christian were also bored with me. On top of countless hospital calls, weddings, funerals and administrative duties all week, I would slave twenty hours Friday and Saturday on a sermon. Then rushing to the pulpit I would be into the message ten or fifteen minutes before realizing I didn't have anything to say. "James, hurry and finish as soon as you can and sit down," I would think to myself. It was easy to see that people all over the congregation were "praying" for me during the sermon—their heads were bowed and their eyes were closed!

I Longed for a Secular Executive Job

Eventually I became fed up with the endless host of observation Sundays—"Go To College Sunday," "Love Your Brother Sunday," "Race Relations Sunday"—and came to the decision that we would not call Sunday by those names anymore. "If we can't experience them, we're not going to observe them," I resolved.

It came to the place where I felt

pressed to either discover the power of the Holy Spirit spoken of by the apostles, or leave the ministry. I had even agreed to pay the Frederick Chusid firm in Dallas $2,000 if they would take me through a training program and locate me in a secular executive job. If heaven was going to be as dull as church I didn't want to go there. Over twenty years the struggle of being a preacher had almost wrecked me.

I Sought to "Become" Holy

From the time I was nineteen until almost age forty-five I had been longing, working, straining and praying for a New Testament fullness in the Holy Spirit, especially seeking Him through entire sanctification. Having set out with the attitude that I would become holy, I listed all those things which were unholy about me and intended, like Benjamin Franklin, to work until I had scratched them off the list. This eventually proved to be a deadlock, for my ego was sitting on the throne—I was going to show God that I *deserved* the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

If I could have set aside my carnal nature and picked up all the traits I was supposed to have to be righteous, without relying upon the daily grace of the indwelling Holy Spirit, then I wouldn't have needed God. But no Christian ever received Christlikeness in that way.

In 1953, immediately after seminary, my wife Allene and I had gone to Falls Church, Virginia. Within eleven years we had built the congregation from 186 members to 1,100. But along with growth came discouragement—everything was such excruciating work I felt as if that building had my sweat on every brick.

After gaining quite a reputation in the denomination for our efforts in Falls Church, Allene and I agreed to accept a transfer to Oklahoma City. Throughout these years I kept praying, "Lord Jesus, there has to be more," and was avidly seeking, yet misunderstanding the sanctification of the Holy Spirit. Once at a Nazarene revival meeting I thought, "I'm just going to *have* to have it or die." I had been prayed for over and over, about as much as anybody can be. If they can't *talk* you into "having a spiritual experience" at their altars they try to *shake* it into you.

"Tongues Turn Me Off, Oral"

Only after reading the Bible more closely was I able to hear the voice of the Father: "When I spoke of holiness, James, I didn't mean *your* holiness. I meant my *Son's* holiness, the holiness of Jesus Christ." Our self-holiness is filthy rags. But the hem of Jesus' garment is precious and cleansing. Touch it with faith. He will fill you with His Holy Spirit and you will never be the same again!

It was during the 1940's that Oral Roberts and I had attended Phillips University together in Enid, Oklahoma. We had become fast friends, sitting side by side in class; when the teacher was gone we would take turns teaching the other students. In 1947 he invited me down to his little church in Enid. Back in his study he got me down on my knees and said, "I want you to come with me and work with me."

"Look, I accept that God still heals men through faith, but the manifestation of tongues turns me off, Oral. I can't accept it," I had answered. In the years that followed he left me alone, went on to Tulsa, eventually to preside over a thirty million dollar educational institution on 140 acres.

I Looked at Him and Said, "Oh No!"

Our close friend Lavinia James, who had received miraculous healing in her own body, and Dr. and Mrs. Reiff periodically urged me to go up to Tulsa and renew my acquaintance with Oral. I was steadily becoming more and more bored with the fruitless routine in my ministry, and more and more hungry for the Holy Spirit, thinking admiringly, "Look what the Lord is doing for Oral and through him."

After much persuading I said to Bill Reiff, "When you receive this baptism and can pray in an unknown language I'll go and get it myself." His wife had already been baptized in the Spirit. It didn't surprise me that a woman might go in for speaking in tongues, but with an intelligent, professional man like Bill I figured I was pretty safe.

One month later Bill came into the kitchen of First Christian Church after worship service. Maxine was standing beside him. He was as pale as a sheet. I took one look at him and said, "Oh no!"

"Yes, I've been up to see Oral and spent almost all night praising God in tongues."

"My doom is sealed," I replied. That following Thursday we were in the car and on our way to Tulsa to visit Oral, my old college chum. We spent a wonderful evening with him, during which he prayed for us. Jesus was drawing me closer and closer all the time. But not only did I have a theological block against any kind of charismatic experience, I was at the arrival point in my life—having risen to the pastorate of First Christian Church, married to a beautiful wife, father of three lovely daughters and living in a $50,000 home.

Encumbrances Were Laid Aside

But if a believer will just let Him, Jesus can reach down into the dark areas of his mind and his will. The Bible will convince a person that without Christ's daily grace all his ambitious works are dead works. If God can break through such a stiff heart as mine He has to be powerful.

I was praying one night and finally yielded: "Thank you, Lord. Whatever you have for me, I am ready to accept. I am willing to take anything that happens to me through your Spirit. I am willing to let you lead me anywhere, and to be made a fool of for God. I will preach nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified. He had to be crucified for my sins, and I've got to let be crucified that image and ego, my past successes and failures and all that pride. I will take up my cross and follow."

All those encumbrances had to be laid aside, putting to death the flesh, before the truth could ever come to me. I became as a "dead man" for "I no longer live; Jesus Christ lives in me."

I knew that although the Spirit would give the utterance, I would have to speak. As I was on my knees praying, a very strange series of phrases came into my mind. All I did was voice them.

Things Began to Happen!

Oh, did things begin to happen afterward! Everything took an about-face for me! At home my wife seemed more patient with the children, the house seemed cleaner, her food even tasted better. But more important, rather than spending twenty hours working on a sermon, I started spending about an hour on the sermon and the rest of the time praying. People came up after church to say, "My, you must be spending a lot of time on your sermons. They're really getting better!"

"No, I'm spending less studying and more praying. Striving less and allowing God's Spirit to bring about results in people's lives."

One week after being baptized in the Holy Spirit I discovered God was giving me a ministry of healing. At the request of the nurse I had been called into the hospital room of Mary Wells. She had been suffering from a serious heart condition for five years, and was barely being kept alive with intravenous feeding, twelve different drugs and oxygen through a hose.

She Started Eating Solid Food

The nurse told me Mary had a wonderful family; her children were very close to her and she didn't want to die. At her bedside I asked the Lord Jesus to heal her and to mend her heart. She confessed later she felt as though she were being lifted off the bed as God completely healed her body. Within twenty-four hours she was sitting up in bed, to the shock and dismay of everybody around her. The hospital staff was telling her to "lie down, be quiet and get those tubes back in there."

"I don't want tubes," she told them. "I'm hungry." She started eating solid food again with a healthy appetite. The Lord had completely healed her, and she hasn't gone back on any drugs since. She is the first

person Jesus Christ had healed in my twenty-year ministry!

I know that the Lord is good. And the secret of receiving the Holy Spirit is this: He does not come merely for your healing, although that's great. Nor is the Baptism merely that you should have a devotional language and edify your spirit, or even do great things. But rather He comes to indwell believers that they may glorify the Lord God Almighty! ■

Carl Williams

Jack Hayford

15th ANNUAL PHOENIX REGIONAL CONVENTION, January 17-20, 1975
DEL WEBB TOWNEHOUSE, 100 Clarendon Ave., Phoenix, Arizona 85013
Rates: Single, $18; Twin, $23; Double, $23; Suite, $65; VIP, $75
Chairman Carl Williams announces that in addition to the speakers shown on the standard brochure, he has also obtained a commitment from **Jack Hayford,** busy pastor of the thriving Church on the Way, Van Nuys, California to minister during the convention.
For further information, telephone Co-Chairman Warner Stevens at (602) 993-1250, daytime, or (602) 944-2716, evenings, or write to him at 1660 W. Bell Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85023.

Douglas Fowler, M.D.

Russ Gray

Albert D'Arpa

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The International Directors of Florida Invite You to Attend
THE FIRST FLORIDA STATE CONVENTION

January 29-February 1, 1975, Robert Meyer Hotel, Jacksonville

Speakers: Demos Shakarian, Ken Copeland, Costa Dier, Tom Ashcraft, and Bill Swad plus other well-known charismatic ministers and laymen.

Rates: Singles, $16.00; Doubles, $19.00; Triples, $21.00

Meals: Breakfasts, $3.25; Luncheon Banquet, $6.00

For further information write: Dr. W. Douglas Fowler, 3599 University Blvd. South, Jacksonville, Florida 32216. Phone: (904) 399-4474

the WHY of tongues
the WHY of tongues

the WHY of tongues

by DR. J. ROBERT ASHCROFT
Director, Full Gospel Business Men's Teaching and Prayer Ministry

MUCH IS KNOWN about speaking in other tongues. Much is not known and remains a mystery. There is enough knowledge revealed in the sacred Scriptures, however, to give clear evidence of the value of speaking in other tongues, and also to give direction in their use. Here are some of the cardinal points.

First, it is clearly stated that there would be speaking in new tongues: "And these signs shall follow them that believe . . . they shall speak with new tongues . . ." (Mark 16:17). These words were spoken by Jesus. This in itself places a high priority on the importance of speaking in tongues.

Secondly, the conspicuous and outstanding phenomena of speaking in other tongues was manifested in the initial outpouring of the Holy Spirit. "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:4). So we have now the Lord Himself, and the Holy Spirit certifying the speaking with other tongues.

Again, in all but one instance in the Book of Acts, whenever there are those filled with the Holy Spirit it is recorded that they spoke with other tongues. In the one exception we could not logically conclude that they did not, thus there is not explicit reason to conclude that there are *any* instances when there was not speaking in other tongues.

Fourthly, Paul speaks about the purpose of speaking in other tongues: "For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men but unto God" (I Corinthians 14:2). This is the highest possible reason. It should be observed at this point that now we have confirmation from the Gospels, the Acts and the Epistles. We know that in church history the phenomena was manifested, so we

have much grounds to affirm again that this is of God. The above guideline written by Paul to the Corinthian church is not always adhered to. This introduces a fifth reason for speaking in tongues. That is when there is an interpretation, or when the speaking in other tongues is in the vernacular of some known language and there are people present who understand the language. It was thus when on the Day of Pentecost the people affirmed, "And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? . . . We do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God" (Acts 2:8,11).

Further, of the speaking in tongues which is not understood there is also a purpose, and that is to serve as a sign to the unbeliever (I Corinthians 14:22)—an attention-getter, if you will. Once the attention of the unbeliever is arrested, prophecy reveals the secrets of his heart and he turns to the Lord.

Seventh, there are personal advantages for those who speak with other tongues, such as the freedom to vocalize inner feelings without the structure of language. There is secret communion between our deepest self and God.

Eighth, Paul said, "Forbid not to speak with tongues" (I Corinthians 14:39). It is very important to note that the great apostle also said, "I speak with tongues more than you all" (I Corinthians 14:18), and that he thanked God for this fact!

Finally, there are limitations on the use of tongues, the first being as mentioned above: they were to be used to speak to God alone, except when the church is in need of edification.

Such Biblical observations as these should enable us to see the value of availing ourselves of all the privileges we have in moving in this wonderful dimension provided by the baptism in the Holy Spirit. ■

Plan now to attend . . .

THE 1975 FGBMFI WORLD CONVENTION

in the Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, California,
June 30-July 5
(near Disneyland)

Included among the many noted speakers participating will be Rex and Maude Aimee Humbard, Oral Roberts, and Kathryn Kuhlman.

For information concerning hotel reservations write to: **FGBMFI World Convention Housing,** P.O. Box 4270, Anaheim, CA 92803.

FGBMFI ORDER FORM

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"Who Could Ask for More?"

Dear Brother Shakarian:

In a recent VOICE I read an invitation for wives to write and tell how their husbands have been influenced by the ministry of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship.

My husband, Larry, never felt he needed the Holy Spirit baptism. He felt he was a good enough Christian and getting along fine without it. We had our health, two children, a nice home, successful business and no money problems—who could ask for more?

After much struggle and a few tears I prayed and asked God to take away all our (material) security if necessary—anything—but just give Larry enough trouble and trial to get him to see how much he needed the Holy Spirit. I prayed, "God, put him in a hard place!" And God did!

A few months later we found ourselves living in another state and Larry with another job. He informed on a drug ring operating in the department store where he worked. The group was quite vicious and beat a girl into critical condition when she "leaked" information. Larry was next on their list and received many threats by way of a "go-between." He had to have an armed guard escort him to and from his car. The FBI was on the case.

Things got so bad we left town for two weeks. During this time Larry admitted he felt helpless and for the first time had a problem he couldn't cope with. He'd sit up late every night reading back issues of VOICE and your book, "GOD and the LAWMAN." Inside of eight weeks he received the Holy Spirit. I know your literature was used by God to create a spiritual hunger for this experience. Thank you.

Six months after his Baptism he was promoted to manager of the store. In his office hangs a picture of Jesus. The drug ring is past history and Larry has replaced those employees with Spirit-filled Christians.

Your sister in Christ,

Victoria Seiter, Las Vegas, Nevada

Effectual Prayer

THE FOLLOWING PRAYERS were written by Joe Bosong, a member of the Asheboro, N. C. chapter of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International. Because they have proven successful on a number of occasions in dealing with those seeking salvation and the baptism in the Holy Spirit, we offer them here as proposed prayers to be repeated by the seeker at the suggestion of the one who is dealing with him.

S. Lee Braxton, FGBMFI vice president, who submitted the prayers on behalf of Mr. Bosong, writes: "If you can get seekers to repeat after you out loud and believe in their hearts, this outline of words can be helpful. I saw this happen in Asheboro."

Suggested Prayer for Salvation

"Dear heavenly Father, I know I have sinned and that I am a sinner. You tell us in your Word that you are a perfect and holy God. You will not stand sin in your presence. I believe this! When my life is finished here I know that to be with you I must have forgiveness for my sins. You have said in your Word that Jesus Christ is your Son and that He is perfect and sinless; that He died on the cross for my sins; that He was buried and then arose from the grave and is now alive with you. You have also said that if I would ask forgiveness for my sins in the name of Jesus Christ that you would forgive me for all of them, forever. Right now I ask you to forgive me for every sin I have ever committed, in the name of Jesus. I not only ask forgiveness but with your help I turn from my sinful ways from now on. Now, dear Father, you have also said that if I would do this and believe on Christ that I would be saved. I do believe on Him! I not only believe on Him as my Saviour, but right now I ask Jesus to become the Lord of my life forever. I want to be obedient to His Word and to serve Him all the days of my life. Amen."

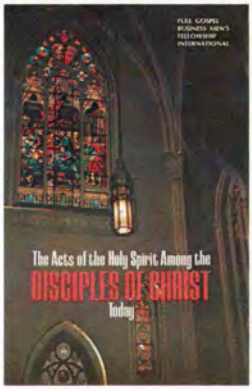
Suggested Prayer For the Baptism in the Holy Spirit

"Dear Lord, I want to be faithful in doing what you commanded in your Word. You are my Saviour and the Lord of my life. Now Jesus, I ask you to baptize me with the Holy Spirit. Endue me now with your power from on high! As evidence that you have baptized me with the Spirit give me a new 'tongue' just like you gave those on the day of Pentecost. Dear Lord, in faith I want to thank you for baptizing me with the Holy Spirit even before I hear the evidence. I am now raising my hands in worship of you. I will right now open my mouth and praise you out loud but not in English. Thank you for turning this into my new prayer language 'with the Spirit.' Amen."

NEW BOOK JUST OFF THE PRESS . . .

The Acts of the Holy Spirit Among the DISCIPLES OF CHRIST Today

The Latest Book in Our Historic Church Series



Read the provocative, challenging, exciting and up-to-date testimonies of how God's Holy Spirit is bringing about a modern-day spiritual renewal among the Christian Church clergy and laity!

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER: 50¢ each (regularly $1.00), in quantities of 10 or more, 40¢ each. (Offer expires February 28, 1975.)
As colorful and beautifully printed as the other books in our new denominational church series, featuring the **Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Baptists, United Methodists, Nazarenes, Church of Christ, and Roman Catholics.** (See book list, p. 30.)

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Please send me _____ copies of **"The Acts of the Holy Spirit Among the DISCIPLES OF CHRIST Today,"** at 50¢ each (10 or more, 40¢ each; no order under $1.00 accepted). Enclosed is my check (or money order) for $_____ (Canada and overseas add $1.00 for first class postage; Calif. residents add 6% sales tax.)

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Make Checks payable to FGBMFI. Address: FGBMFI, 836 S. Figueroa, Los Angeles, Calif. 90017.

1974 NEW ZEALAND CONVENTION

The third National Convention of the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship of New Zealand was held in the Wellington Girls' College assembly hall over Queen's birthday weekend, May 31-June 3, 1974.

Led by President David Orpin, the expectant worshippers rejoiced in God their Father. Ministry came through many channels as this representative gathering of the body of Christ moved together in love. George Otis and Fr. Ray Scott, a Catholic priest, were the main speakers. Virginia Otis and chapter representatives also told of the work of God. Jan Salmond held the audience rapt as words of warning, devotion and appeal soared in sweet cadence over the assemblage.

Twenty Catholic Prayer Groups

Fr. Scott told the convention that the baptism in the Holy Spirit "pulls out a plug between heart and mind."

Thanking the Anglican St. Paul Singers from Auckland for the quiet kind of worship they had led the convention in, Fr. Scott said this was what was happening among Catholic charismatics in Christchurch. He said that there were now 20 prayer groups in that city. Catholic involvement in charismatic renewal received a lot of attention in the convention, with many non-Catholics still somewhat astonished it had happened.

As the convention progressed, electronics genius George Otis impressed the hearers that God is moving throughout the world. His wife Virginia gave a positive view on women's role in complementing their husbands, and David Orpin and Ron O'Malley gave lively encouragement of the way the Holy Spirit guides in chapter development.

The Convention Goes On

The banquet testimony of George Otis confronted all with the sobering fact that the pinnacle of success for a human being is away beyond what a man can attain. He needs the Lord Jesus Christ for total fulfillment. On Sunday afternoon, as he stated the scriptural position of the baptism in the Holy Ghost and led the gathering into the experience, the sound of a rushing wind was heard literally by many present.

Sunday evening the "millenium man" was given a preview of his function in Christ. On Monday George Otis brought the audience to a triumphant declaration of the Lordship of Jesus over and within our nation.

The convention goes on—folks returned home convinced that God is moving in New Zealand. ■

FGBMFI CHAPTERS RECENTLY CHARTERED

Benton, Arkansas

Westshore-Cleveland, Ohio

Hoxie, Kansas

Chapters recently chartered **Hereford, Texas**

(continued from page 35)

Warsaw, Indiana

WASHINGTON, D.C. INTERNATIONAL REGIONAL CONVENTION
February 26 through March 1, 1975, Washington Hilton Hotel

Speakers: Demos Shakarian, Pat Robertson, Frederick K. C. Price, Jamie Buckingham, Gen. Ralph E. Haines, USA (Ret.), Bill Basansky, Robert Ashcroft.
Hotel Reservations: Singles $20.00; Twins and Doubles $28.00; Triple $31.00. **(Make requests directly to hotel, Connecticut Ave. and Columbia Rd. N.W., Washington, D.C.) For further information write: FGBMFI Convention Office, P.O. Box 4270, Washington, D.C. 20012.**

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL CONVENTION
Redding, October 24-26, 1974

1. **Chairman Cliff Powell** with **Fr. Jerome McCarthy** of Kimmage, Dublin, who offset negative news media reports with encouraging news of the move of the Holy Spirit among Catholics and Protestants in Ireland. **2. Howard Ervin,** chairman of the department of theology at Oral Roberts University, addressed the two afternoon seminars and was the featured speaker at the Saturday night banquet. **3. Earl Moore,** FGBMFI director from Midland, Texas related how God helped him to develop and patent many of the tools used in his oil field drilling and pumping machinery. **4. Willie and Mary Murphy** contributed much to the success of the convention through song and testimony. **5. Arnold Anderson,** manager of Sunset West, a plush condominium in Seattle, Washington, stirred conventioners with his testimony of God's intervention in his business affairs. **6. James H. Powers,** Salt Lake City chapter president reported a current move of the Holy Spirit among Mormons there. **7. Harold Becker,** chapter president in Redding and manager of a nursing home spoke of his opportunities in which to minister for Christ. **8. Richard Lopez** of Redding, a Catholic, testified of God's power to save and deliver from alcohol and drug addiction. **9. Dr. Del Sowerby,** a Roman Catholic physician who practices anesthesiology in Redding, is also actively engaged in the current charismatic renewal transpiring in that city.

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SIX SCRIPTURAL STEPS TO SALVATION

Men still cry, "What must I do to be saved?" The Bible provides a clear answer. Here are the six Scriptural steps which all must take to pass from death unto life:

1. **ACKNOWLEDGE:** "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13). You must acknowledge in the light of God's Word that you are a sinner.

2. **REPENT:** "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3). "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19). You must see the awfulness of sin and then repent of it.

3. **CONFESS:** "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9). "With the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:10). The Lord awaits your admission of guilt.

4. **FORSAKE:** "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord . . . for he will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:7). Sorrow for sin is not enough in itself. We must want to be done with it once and for all.

5. **BELIEVE:** "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9). "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16). Believe in the finished work of Christ on the cross.

6. **RECEIVE:** "He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:11,12). Christ must be received personally into the heart by faith, if the experience of the New Birth is to be yours.

Why not make your eternal decision right now: "I am convinced by God's Word that I am a lost sinner. I believe that Jesus Christ died for sinners and shed His blood to put away my sins. I NOW receive Him as my personal Lord and Saviour and will by His help, confess Him before men."

When you have made this greatest of all decisions, please let us know about it so that we may rejoice together.

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Conventions and Rallies

EASTERN OHIO (Cambridge)
January 17, 18, 1975
Salt Fork Lodge
Tom Gabbard/Dave Peterson, Co-Chmn.
P.O. Box 550, Cambridge, OH 43725

PHOENIX, ARIZONA
January 17-20, 1975
Del Webb TowneHouse
Warner Stevens/Carl Williams, Co-Chmn.
5919 East Edgemont, Scottsdale, AR 85257

HAMILTON, BERMUDA
January 23-25, 1975
Bermudiana Hotel
Peter Smith, Chairman
P.O. Box 350, Hamilton, Bermuda

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA
January 23-25, 1975
Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, Va.
Robert S. Harvey/Bill Miles, Co-Chmn.
3104 Biscayne Dr., Chesapeake, VA 23321

FLORIDA STATE-JACKSONVILLE
January 29-February 1, 1975
Robert Meyer Hotel
Dr. Douglas Fowler, Chmn.
3599 University Blvd.
Jacksonville, Florida 32216

TULSA, OKLAHOMA
February 12-15, 1975
Sheraton Skyline East
Jack Long/Lee Braxton/Lloyd Huneryager, Co-Chmn.
P.O. Box 15459, Tulsa, OK 74112

GOLDEN SPREAD (Amarillo, Texas)
February 12-15, 1975
Villa Inn Motel
K. R. Collins/Earl K. Moore, Co-Chmn.
P.O. Box 721, Amarillo, TX 79105

WASHINGTON, D.C.
February 26-March 1, 1975
Washington Hilton
Al Malachuk, Chairman
P.O.B. Drawer F, Vienna, VA 22180

1975 WORLD CONVENTION, ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA
Anaheim Convention Center, June 30-July 5 **(see page 29)**

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