

#### CONCERNING TELEVISION

Not very many years ago Christians universally frowned on the films shown in the many theatres across the country. Yet it is ironic that today those very people by and large invite the same offerings into their living room. We realize that we are dealing with a "controversial" subject, since many have already so endeared themselves to the picture tube that *nothing* could possibly convince them to part from it. Thus we address our remarks rather to those who are willing to prayerfully consider the potential dangers of television and who are willing to take whatever corrective action may be necessary.

If nothing else, television can certainly be a colossal time-waster. Paul says to Timothy, "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier." We may not all be called to be generals in the Lord's army, but we are all called to be soldiers. We cannot see how this can be reconciled with the picture of a half-alert man in a darkened room, slumped before a TV screen, absorbing for hours on end the propaganda of his most violent Enemy, sacrificing countless precious moments and opportunities to exercise himself unto godliness. How many man-hours of fervent prayer, searching Bible Study, and personal visitation and witness are sacrificed for the insipid worship of the electron-god, only eternity will reveal. Even wholesome athletic activities, hobbies, good reading, family activities are cast aside for a stare at the TV screen. Maybe not everyone has the capacity to be on his knees all day, but can a soldier afford to devote as much time and energy to the pursuit of pleasure as to the completion of his training?

However, if time-wasting were the most serious objection to television, we might have remained silent, but there are more serious objections. Now we would be foolish to intimate that TV is all bad. We, indeed, commend the powers that be for their coverage of important news events, their documentary programs, etc. But

these are not the programs that have captivated the hearts of even seemingly spiritual Christians. Let us look at the content of those programs which occupy "prime evening time" and are indeed the "drawing card." Though the bad guy always gets caught in the end, there is still some peculiar fascination in watching all sorts of violence: shooting, killing, stealing, fist-fights, etc. Such entertainment is rounded out with blackmail, forgery, counterfeiting, embezzlement, bribery, and all sorts of dishonesty. In short, anything that is basically wrong makes a good story that captivates our thoughts. What a contrast to the exhortation to the Philippians: "Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are *pure*, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

Moral principles deserve special mention. Love affairs which are absolutely unscriptural (not to say indecent) are glamorized and participated in vicariously by the viewers. Most of the music and dance on the "spectacular shows" is plainly "sexy." Now we are not so naive as to think that a person seeing an illicit love affair will immediately run out and do likewise. But how can Christians so enjoy such entertainment that is plainly the lust of the eyes, which we are so plainly warned against? Something is wrong with such a heart. The Ephesian church was reprimanded, not because they had outwardly backslidden, but because they had lost the keenness of their first love. Yet, step by step, many allow their moral principles to be eaten away. Little by little the fire of the Holy Ghost is quenched. These scenes that enter our vulnerable eyegate, though we may be too civilized to imitate them exactly, nevertheless move us (if ever so slightly) in that direction. Yet how many Christians willingly submit to entertainment which first alloys their first love and then sends them back for more.

The effect on children, for example, is startling. Many parents have shirked parental duties toward their children and allowed them to become so addicted to the electronic baby-sitter that to miss their favorite, "innocent" children's program causes a tantrum. For shame that a Christian child should be more interested in Yogi Bear than in the heroes of faith. But it is what he *is exposed to* that molds his interests. Children's workers have loudly acknowledged the warpage of character, lack of emotional balance, restlessness, and undisciplined behavior of our modern children. If not all of this is due to TV, certainly it can claim a significant share.

Brethren, our family bonds are being dissolved, (Continued on page 11.)

# Love and Obedience

### By MARTHA W. ROBINSON

No CHRISTIAN can really make a victory in the daily life without understanding the two paths, Love and Obedience, and keeping at it, whether the one path or the other be the plainest, for—to put it in other words —the way of following Jesus is like that, the path sometimes very clear, and sometimes very dark and dry.

I name one path, LOVE. You will find prayer delightful, unction of the soul is here, gladness to obey the least will of Here naturally you God. etc. acquire more earnestness and enthusiasm, and seem to acquire more faith, for you naturally do these things by the delight in Him which the Word of God commands, or which you know to be His will. Nevertheless, to really fulfill and keep on this love path, there has to be the wholesome taking of the trial and bearing the cross for Jesus when things *aren't* so easy and there is more trial. Until you bear this test, often, you cannot fulfill in love or faith.

Now, the other path, OBEDI-ENCE, is just as great, because while the obedience is not greater, it is a difficult path. As said, the path of obedience, as being a different path from that of love, is the path where things are not easy, where the unction has turned to dryness, and the glory has faded somewhat, and through mistakes of the natural man even the sense of the Lord's presence and that warmth of love are missing a little.

Here the young Christian or the unloval one stops good service. If the consciousness of disobedience is there or if it be not, it makes little difference, the ardent desire to please Jesus seems not to be so great. Up to that time, he has *wanted* to please God all the time. Here it comes by a sense of duty, and if he be not strong and overcoming, he gives up his hearty climb toward God and acts as if he would sit down and wait for Jehovah, not wait on Jehovah, but wait till He pulled him out somehow and gave back the love. Almost all this is simple teaching that all Christians learn by the soul as they go on with God.

Now, at the time such a slide or loss comes, a real earnestness ought to come to the soul as to where the slide started. It may be a neglect of the personal, inward dealing with God. It may be only some temporary ease; perhaps it is a small disobedience overlooked. At any rate, whatever it is, the will of the Father is that the person should take for the reparation of the breach altogether the same steps obediently in prayer and consecrations and doings as brought about the blessing at To say it in the very first. plainer words, each thing you think God wants you to do ought to be done definitely, and promptly, just as soon as He wants you to do it, when you don't feel like it, as earnestly as when you do.

You have the most profound loss by coming to that spiritual slide and by not at once obeying minutely when the feeling of obedience is getting to wane. Almost all the holiness of your experience lies dependent upon what you do on these slides or outgoings from the inner love of God.

Now, if by some possibly unwitting slide, the grip of your love and enthusiasm begins to wane a little, get to prayer more for yourself earnestly.

There must be said to God, in such words as mean it: "God is the same. I change. He does not. I will therefore do toward Him all that in me lies, as if we saw each other as before, and if I cannot see Him plainly, I know He sees me. I will keep after Him. I go on and obey (follow) and *He* finds the way through. If I have slipped somewhere or my natural man has not been subject enough to keep me in the perfect will of God, I will go on again in prayer and be the overcomer I have been appointed to be. He knows when I am in earnest. I don't have to have men know it."

Talk to Jesus of your call, that is, your call to obey and live for God. Be real. Do not

Jake Thou my Hand

Take Thou my hand, and lead me— Choose Thou my way; "Not as I will," O Father, teach me to say; What though the storms may gather? Thou knowest best; Safe in Thy holy keeping, There would I rest.

Take Thou my hand, and lead me— Lord, I am Thine; Fill with Thy Holy Spirit This heart of mine; Then in the hour of trial Strong shall I be— Ready to do, or suffer, Dear Lord, for Thee.

Take Thou my hand, and lead me, Lord, as I go; Into Thy perfect image Help me to grow; Still in Thine own pavilion O hide Thou me; Keep me, O Father, keep me, Close, close to Thee.

do it for just one day, but let this be the plan of your spiritual walk with Him. Be sure, as you go through, you recognize in all the spiritual life before you a method of inward and persistent seeking and praising prayer, without lapses, will *keep* you walking. Go on this way till this habit of inward dealing with God and personal love has increased, so that it cannot be broken.

Here you are thus called to so obey and so pray, whether you have the enthusiasm or feeling or any part of the enjoyment. And if you will cultivate a clear, right-about-face victory, before very long you will get the "grip" as before, and the "go-through" feelings of persistence will be your portion.

I would call your attention to a familiar passage of scripture which here fits in: Jno. 14:21, "He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me, and he that loveth Me shall be loved of My Father, and I will love him and will manifest Myself unto him."

All deep and "go through" Christians learn something of this lesson, that is to say, that for very love of God obedience becomes a delight, but that if you do not enjoy that exquisite glory of love, if you will really take the obedience of the deep Christian, and do precisely as deeply toward God because you owe it to Him, before long you will discover the truth of His own statement that that attitude of obedience is love, that that is, therefore, an open door to reception and comprehension and enjoyment of His love, that through this method of stern holiness and lowly faith of believing that He will manifest Himself, you will find Him. And if you will really obey God, you will be showing you are loving anyway in a measure, whether the way seems dark and things dry, or not, and here God will meet you with the witness of His love, waken you up to a greater knowledge of Him.

This wonderful verse does not belong to the beginnings of Christian grace at all. He who walks straight out into that verse is already in some measure of love, and already in obedience, and having seen the Lord some, opens his heart to desire Him more, and here the obedience of that soul has already been reckoned as love, that that obedience is God's reason or sign for making a larger and special word over that soul of His own love to that soul. Wherefore, working it out, a life following clear through on that verse, exercises distinctly and strongly high faith for the MAN-IFESTATION OF GOD.

This article is composed of edited excerpts of a teaching given by Mrs. Robinson, February 12, 1915.

# Bread of Life

VOL. X NO. 2 FEBRUARY 1961

Published monthly by RIDGEWOOD PENTECOSTAL CHURCH, 457 Harman Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Editor: Gordon P. Gardiner. Ass't Editor: Caroline Gardiner. Contributing Editor: Hans R. Waldvogel.
Office Manager: Eleanor Perz. Photoengraver: Bingham Photoengraving Co. Frinted in the U.S.A.
Second-class postage paid at Brooklyn, N. Y. Address all correspondence to P.O. Box 11, Brooklyn 27,
N. Y. Make all subscriptions payable to Frank G. Posta, Treas. Cover Photo: A. Devaney, N. Y.
Annual Subscriptions: United States and Canada \$1.75; Foreign, \$2.00. Single copy—15c.

# **Grace for Grace**

The Second Installment of the Autobiography of Alice Reynolds Flower

Minister of the Gospel, Author, and Wife of J. Roswell Flower, retired General Secretary of the Assemblies of God



Alice Reynolds Flower

# The Early Years

W HILE I HAVE DEALT largely on God's gracious dealing in Mother's life, there were other godly ancestors whose prayers, no doubt, contributed to my well being. There was my father's Quaker mother, whose life was a testimony to all who knew her. I never met her, but there has always been the conviction that I am reaping a rich harvest from her life of close communion with God. God's Word reiterates the truth of blessing descending from generation to generation, and of course, the reverse is true also.

What rich memories arise from the events of my early years!

There was always music in our home. No one played hymns with such feeling as my mother; and to this day a number of hymns are definitely associated with her, bringing an immediate picture of her sitting at the piano as she sang the praise that was ever in her heart to the Lord. Of my sisters, one twin played a violin and the other the piano, and both of these had made a definite consecration of whatever talent they had to the service of God. There was some classical music, but the sweetness of heaven's melodies filled the house most frequently. It has rejoiced our hearts to see the same expression manifest in our own children. The love for music has carried through to the second and third generation.

#### Company in the Home

After God's manifest grace in Mother's soul and body, our home became a haven for God's children. Relatives came freely as formerly; but now afflicted ones sought out Mother for prayer, and even for shelter, at times, and Father was kindly disposed toward such entertaining. Certain visitors made an impression upon me at a very early age. There was Dr. George D. Watson. He had been the pastor of the largest, most influential Methodist Episcopal Church in Indianapolis. God had led him into the experience of sanctification or Bible holiness; and because he dared to preach this, he was dismissed from the church.

His wife, an intelligent Christian, misunderstood God's dealing with him had temporarily returned to her relatives. Financial difficulties developed, and with a deeply burdened heart, Dr. Watson went to my parents, seeking counsel and prayer. Sensing his immediate need for help, my father and mother invited him to occupy the guest chamber in our home. That man spent hours before God in seasons of deepest soul searching. He knelt in prolonged prayer until the toes of his shoes turned up. Just a tiny girl, probably four or five years of age, I would watch him coming down the stairs, fascinated by the sight of those shoes. Mother well explained to me the reason for it.

When I was a little older, Mother also told me the happy ending of Dr. Watson's stay in our home. After he had been there six long weeks, one morning he came downstairs and said to my mother, "Sister Reynolds, I have broken through to God; the burden has lifted and deliverance is on the way." Later, that very day, there were three letters in the mail for him, the good news of which he shared with Father and Mother. One was a call from the Holiness ranks to conduct meetings. There was a letter from his wife, asking forgiveness for her failure to understand and advising him she would join him as soon as arrangements could be made. Finally, notice of the sale of property which had involved him in financial difficulties.

Dr. Watson always called me "The Jubilistic," but I doubt if he ever knew what a deep impression he left on my child heart during those days spent in our home. After this Gethsemane experience his books and articles breathed the atmosphere of true overcoming and brought blessing to multitudes. Who has not been strengthened by his message, "Others may, you cannot"?\*

Then, there was the memory of a Mrs. Harris, another visitor in the home. As I recall, she was Welsh and, typical of that people, she was full of God's music and laid great emphasis on the memorizing of the words of hymns. She inspired the family to do likewise, and although this was during my pre-school days, I can still repeat the words of hymns she encouraged us to learn. One of those hymns from an old hymn book has lingered through the years, often returning in the night season with fresh strength and comfort:

> Lord, I am Thine, entirely Thine, Purchased and saved by pow'r divine; With full consent Thine I would be And own Thy sovereign right in me.

> Thine would I live, Thine would I die, Be Thine thro' all eternity; The vow is past beyond repeal, And now I set the solemn seal.

Down at the cross where flowed the blood That bought my guilty soul for God; Thee my new Master now I call And consecrate to Thee my all.

Do Thou assist a feeble worm That great engagement to perform; Thy grace can full assistance lend, And on that grace I dare depend.

After Mrs. Harris left us, she sent an organ from a relative whose company manufactured them; but the organ did not remain long with us. A couple who were ministering to the lepers in India came into the home, and that organ was given to them for the lepers.

Others came and went, some leaving a rich deposit of grace as their testimony. There were others whose lives came short and whom we tried to forget. Mother's philosophy was to give with an open heart and to leave the recipient's responsibility for their actions with God. There were times when God remarkably preserved from some who definitely meant evil, even by warning through dreams. Lean days came, when father's income was greatly curtailed and the fare of our table was simple. What we had was freely shared, however, and this should be the standard for Christian hospitality in every home. Children should be made to feel today that a home should be shared, not in competitive entertaining but in loving ministry to those who are in any need. I shall always thank God for the Christ-like hospitality and for the impression made by those who came and went in those early days of my life.

#### The Atmosphere of Prayer

For me there was always a Family Altar, conducted by my father. There was never a time when I did not feel God's presence in some measure. Such a godly home and consecrated parents who stood for the deeper truths were responsible for this. With the atmosphere, the example, the influences consistently Godward, how could there be ought but a response from my heart? There was a particular occasion when I gave myself to the Lord Jesus, resulting in an overflow of joy as I knelt by my little rocking chair. Over and over I sang:

> "At the cross, at the cross, Where I first saw the light."

Prayer was very real to me because the Lord was real. The outside influences of school days, characteristically with children, caused my love and devotion to ebb and flow, sometimes dampening my ardor. However, any mention of our Lord's coming always brought the desire to please Him and to be ready. The impression is still vivid of coming into the house from school and finding, apparently, no one at home. Immediately came the thought that perhaps the Lord had come and mother was gone, for she was usually there to greet me. I would go anxiously through the house, from room to room, greatly relieved to find mother on her knees, pouring out her heart to God.

#### **Childhood Training**

Because the Lord had touched my life, and I had occasional movings of divine grace, I was not left without proper discipline. Mother's vital scripture here was "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it," Prov. 22:6; to which she added: "Line upon line, precept upon precept," Isa. 28:10.

Even though a child has met God, it is illogical to expect that the child has become a matured saint. There must be careful training and wise discipline. This involves the building of character and the encouragement of habit-forming principles of wholesome living. There must be dealing with right attitudes toward God and people

<sup>\*</sup>This article will be found on page 12 of this issue.



Alice Reynolds Flower (center) at fifteen, with her Parents and Twin Sisters, Ulela and Zella

in general. The matter of obedience was paramount with Mother, any disobedience being firmly dealt with. Mother had some unique ways of punishment, but the lessons always went home.

How thankful I have been many times for her emphasis on questions of obedience and respect for older people!

Any time there was disciplining there was also a time of prayer afterwards. Her quiet words of counsel dropped deep into my heart's well, even when for the moment I was restless and perhaps a little resentful. She was very fair and just, as I came to realize sooner or later. But I had a strong will with a multitude of ideas to assure its carrying out. Much of my discipline came from Mother, and later I realized my yielding to her faithful discipline made it easier to yield to God.

As a part of mother's training, from an early age she encouraged me to memorize Scripture. At one time two verses a day was the quota before going out to play. For this I am also grateful as I find myself quoting verses scarce remembered as having ever been committed to memory. The Holy Spirit can only bring to our remembrance what we have stored away.

#### Affection and Appreciation

Two things were freely given in our home—affection and appreciation. The lack of these make a problem home, and a problem home produces problem children. Both Father and Mother were affectionate, and the goodby kiss as well as the welcoming kiss were definitely a part of the program on the home level. There was the tender showing of affection in other ways, all of which warms the family heart and brings its members close together. As for the matter of appreciation, any accomplishment received kindly words of approbation. This fact made us eager to share every interest or achievement with the parents and sisters, so ready to give some words of loving praise. Withholding merited commendation can stifle a child's desire and initiative.

#### God's Grace in Healing

The marked healing mother had experienced strengthened her faith so vitally that she trusted God implicitly for herself as well as her three daughters. As a result, there were definite miracles, sometimes occurring in a few brief moments of time. While still very young, one summer I was near death with cholera infantum. There had been spasms, and lock jaw had developed. The doctor, my father had insisted upon calling, declared the case hopeless and left the house. With the same stearfast faith Mother had shown in various emergencies she knelt in another bedroom, leaving me for a few moments in the care of a nurse. She spoke to God directly, asking Him to spare my life if it could be used for His glory in days to come. She was resigned to whatever He saw best, even if God chose to take me.

With a quiet heart she returned to my bedside to find the nurse excited over the releasing of my jaws and the warmth returning to my body, which had become cold in approaching death. The improvement was so rapid that when the doctor (a neighbor) stopped in that evening, expecting to give condolence for a dead child, I was sitting on the carpet playing with some toys. Is it any wonder that my first thought from earliest remembrance was to run to mother for prayer if injured in any way?

Some six years or more later, God gave another wonderful victory through the faith of this dear mother. Double pneumonia had developed following an attack of la grippe. Old Brother Sullivan, a deacon of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, had been called in and he prayed for me, but it seemed there was no change. My breath was coming shorter when mother asked the rest of the family to go into an adjoining bedroom and quietly pray. Taking her place by my bedside she said, "Alice, use what little breath you have to praise the Lord." God had evidently spoken to her heart, and so, between gasps for breath I began to say, "Praise the Lord." Right there the victory came, and within a few days I was back in school. It was a notable deliverance and came, this time, through praise.

# Fourfold Gospel Fellowship

Prior to this time, a Presbyterian minister, Albert B. Simpson, had received a wonderful spiritual awakening and proclaimed what he called the "Fourfold Gospel." This was the recognition of Jesus Christ as the Saviour, Sanctifier, Healer and Coming King. He had opened a church in New York City, boldly declaring these truths, so unpopular in many quarters. From that center, what was known as "Prayer Circles" were developing in various areas. In some way, mother made contact with Dr. Simpson, and with several others in Indianapolis a little prayer circle was formed. This prayer circle became the nucleus of what later developed into the largest Christian and Missionary Alliance branch in the middlewest.

Meanwhile, in Anderson, Indiana, the wife of Reverend George N. Eldridge, pastor of a large Methodist Church, had experienced a divine healing in her body. With characteristic forthrightness, Dr. Eldridge began to declare the truth of scriptural healing, from the pulpit of his church, coupled with teaching on holiness. He received a letter from the North Indiana Conference with a skull and cross-bones at the top. In the letter he was warned against the further declaring of such unpopular subjects, with the added threat of possible removal from his charge. About this time he met father and mother which resulted in his coming to Indianapolis to open an Alliance branch, known as "The Gospel Tabernacle," but referred to by many as the Power House." It was a faith venture for this couple and their family of six children, and we as a family took our stand with them.

Under Dr. and Mrs. Eldridge we had rich teaching with strong emphasis on missionary concern and giving. The Sunday afternoon service was the high point of the week when hungry church people from all over Indianapolis came to the "Power House" for teaching and spiritual help. Dr. Eldridge came originally from the state of Maine and had had association with the rugged sea coast there. It was remarkable that almost every sermon he preached contained some reference to or illustration from that early environment. His special word of emphasis, when bringing out gospel truth, was "Let this soak in." No young person could sit under his ministry without definite growth and permanent impressions of what a consecrated life should be. I remember kneeling in the gallery of the old Gospel Tabernacle to make a deep consecration to God, calling it as was so common then, an experience of sanctification.

Once a year, Dr. Simpson came to Indianapolis for a stirring missionary convention. A large auditorium, apart from the Tabernacle, was secured for these meetings, and the missionary fervor encouraged through the year arose to fever height as we listened to Dr. Simpson's searching missionary message, delivered quietly but most impressively. We all made pledges by faith, and jewelry and other valuables were freely laid in the collection plates or on the altar when the missionary offering was taken. That missionary emphasis did something to me as a child which has been intensified through the years, and I would to God our children today could have that same impression of our responsibility to send out the gospel.

My middle teen years brought more or less of inward controversy. There was love for God and prayer over problems that came, but there was also an ambitious outreaching in some directions with threatened spiritual impairment. How well my faithful mother sensed this! There were times that I overheard her praying for me. How I needed such prayer, just as every young life at its crisis point needs steadying prayer and counsel! And God had the answer in a remarkable way, for it was just at this time that the Spirit of God was falling in Los Angeles at the old Azusa Street Mission, as well as in other parts of the country.

We called it the Latter Rain, well expressed in D. Wesley Myland's hymn:

"There's a Pentecost for every trusting soul; Of your life the Spirit now will take control, Filling, sealing, quick'ning, healing, making whole By God's holy pow'r today.

Oh, I'm glad the promised Pentecost has come, And the Latter Rain is falling now on some; Pour it out, in floods, Lord, on the parched ground, 'Till it reaches all the world around.''

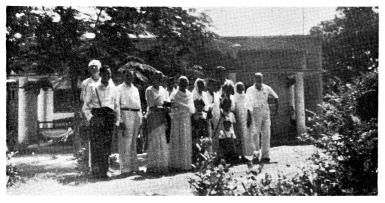
(To be continued.)





Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Ericson

"We have had good meetings and good Christmas with the Christians. And in all we should be satisfied, but we are not because we need a visitation from on high. Thank you for the assurance that you are praying for us and India."



The Parsonage, Partapgarh, India

Directly in front of Mr. Ericson is the Indian pastor of the assembly with some of the Christians. "We had the wonder of seeing the church and newly-built parsonage electrified this year! After over thirty years of lanterns and candles we can now press the button!!" writes Mrs. Ericson.

WALTER AND BERTHA WALD-VOGEL give this news from "The Kirchheim, Germany: blessing of the Lord has been very wonderful over the Christmas holidays and the New Year week-end. On January 6 we had our yearly young people's gathering. The turnout was excellent, and the blessing of the Lord was very, very wonderful. Brother Maile brought forth a real anointed message in the afternoon. We served supper at about 5:30, and I guess there were over 100 who stayed for supper. And then we had our regular Friday night prayer meeting. Of course, not all of the people stayed-many of them come from out of townbut a good number stayed, and we had a precious time of prayer. Uncle Hans's visit with us a week before Christmas was of great blessing to us all. It meant so much to us personally to have him just at this time, and the blessing of his ministry among us was very great. We know that the Lord brought him just at this time, and we are all looking forward to his next visit, which, we hope, will not be in the too-distant future."

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HELEN Hoss, who has been working with the colored people near Johannesburg, South Africa, sends this encouraging word: "I want to tell you what the Lord has been doing in Doornfontein and Jeppe. Jeppe is not far from Doornfontein; our people from Jeppe walk to Doornfontein-about two miles. We have a nice little group in Jeppe, and so I was led last Thursday night to start meetings in Jeppe and then Sunday night we meet in Doornfontein. The Edwards family are most unusual. When they came to the Lord, they decided to seek the Lord daily, so Brother Edwards started evening worship. The outcome has been that his two sons, ten and twelve, have been saved. The mother received assurance of salvation this past Thursday evening. The father is so hungry for the Lord."

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ELISABETH LINDAU, who has been attending language school in Taipei, Formosa, tells of her recent activities and schedule: "During the Christmas season I had two weeks of vacation from school, and this past week

> Mr. and Mrs. Gordon McKinnon and Family in Their Home, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands

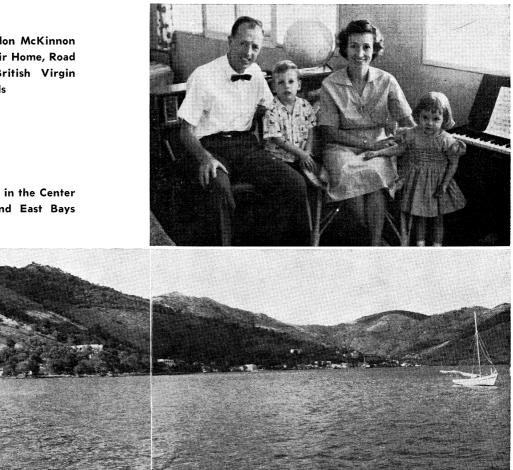
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Below: Road Town in the Center With the West and East Bays

have resumed studies for another three months. This requires my living in Taipei from Monday through Friday but enables me to be back at Kou Tzu K'ou to take care of the Sunday school work and to be present for the Friday night prayer meeting, Saturday morning, and Sunday meetings. The Sunday school has been growing and new contacts made. It will be nice when language study is over, so I can get back to home visitation work. We have been continuing to have a Sunday school in the nearby orphanage where two of our teachers minister to 150 children. We thank the Lord for these opportunities of giving forth this blessed Word."

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PEARL YOUNG gives a further account of the Lord's leading and working in the work at Taipei: "During the past summer the Lord led us to have several mornings each week set apart for meeting in the church with any who would come. This has continued—Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings-from 9 o'clock on. These times have increasingly precious. been God's seal of approval has so evidently been upon them. A few of our own dear ones here come, and the Lord has brought one and another from other places—both Chinese and missionary. The times are really "morning worships." Jesus draws so very, very near. No two sessions are alike. There is praise and worship, silent waiting on God, prayer, and, besides, a good deal of teaching. Since several missionaries have expressed the desire for a regular time when it would be in English, not Chinese, it is possible that we shall make Tues-



day a whole day before the Lord, the afternoon to be just for missionaries."

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MARGARET MICHELSEN writes from Orai, India, of the Christmas program: "The school children arrived at 9:00 a.m. The mothers and other children began to arrive by 9:30. However. the program wasn't to begin until 11:00! Because our two main guests did not arrive until after twelve we could not start until then!! Believe me. it was no joke trying to keep some 500 children and 200 women quiet. The children did wonderfully well. I think it was one of the very best programs we have ever had."

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LAWRENCE OLSON and his wife, missionaries to Brazil, are on furlough now but expect to return to the field for their fourth term of service in early March. During this time Mr. Olson made a special two-month visit to Brazil. "Everywhere we found revival fires burning brightly. An evangelical rally we attended in Rio de Janeiro had 30,000 out. The Short-Term Bible School in Lavras was very much blessed of God. The increase in our crowds there make us know we must soon enlarge our present temple. And at Sao Joao del Rey, which has been a very hard place, things are breaking, and right now we're building a new church. Our radio ministry in Rio de Janeiro

has continued to be a blessing to many. The large mail response proves how Christians and non-Christians, by the thousands, listen each week. Many find the Lord as Savior, Healer, and Baptizer through this vital message."

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FLORENCE STEIDEL, founder of the colony for lepers, New Hope Town, Liberia, writes: "How good it is to be back home in the land of my calling and adoption. Joy filled my heart as I stepped from the plane at New Hope and saw the people singing, shouting, and praising the Lord for answering prayer and bringing their 'Ma' back to them again. I am still thinking of the house you gave when I was there a few weeks ago. I'm anxious to get it started. Possibly one of the three houses we're working on now will be named for your church."

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FRANCISCO RODRIQUEZ, who has labored for years in Cuba, is now located in Miami, Florida, from there sends this report: "Your Christmas message and gift were so encouraging, especially at this time when we are here and not able to return to our post of labor and without a church. The situation of Cuba is getting worse and worse. All the U.S. citizens had to My mother-in-law, my leave. daughter Ruth, and her baby have arrived here. Ruth's husband could not leave because he is a Cuban and could not get a permit. Also my daughter Persida, her husband, and child are still there waiting for their opportunity. We will lose our home and car, but thank God that we can save our lives. The Lord has been encouraging us in more than one way."

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Protestant missionaries now number 42,250 throughout the world, an increase of 3,644 in the last two years. Of this total 27,219 are from North American "agencies." Protestants in Canada and the United States contributed nearly 170 million dollars to foreign missions in 1959. United States givers averaged about \$2.75 per person!

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Pentecostal churches in the United States increased in membership from 169,000 in 1950 to 392,000 in 1960, according to World Almanac figures. This represented the largest rate of growth of all Protestant denominations or groups for the decade.

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When the telephone rings, somebody wants your attention. So when a message in tongues is given, it means that the Lord is wanting the attention of people. *He* wants to speak to them. *The purpose of tongues and interpretation* is to lift people in their faith, to point them to Jesus.

# **CONCERNING TELEVISION**

#### (Continued from page 2.)

our morals tainted, our zeal and ambition quenched, our anointing lost. Our physical powers are evaporating, our mental powers being dulled, our spiritual powers being sacrificed—all as we are being spoon-fed questionable entertainment. It is time to take some rather drastic action lest we lose the kingdom. May we suggest an experiment? Turn off the TV for two weeks and analyze the results. If you can't endure through the two weeks, you are badly addicted. Get rid of your set immediately lest you lose your crown. If the weeks are times of intense uneasiness and nothing-to-do, you'd better leave the television off until you get happily adjusted without it. But perhaps there will be those who will find a new and sweet presence of the Lord in those days, so that they will forget to turn the set back on again.

Others May ... You Cannot

I F God has called you to be really like Jesus, He will draw you into a life of crucifixion and humility, and put upon you such demands of obedience, that you will not be able to follow other people, or measure yourself by other Christians, and in many ways He will seem to let other people do things which He will not let you do.

Other Christians and ministers, who seem very religious and useful, may push themselves, pull wires, and work schemes to carry out their plans, but you cannot do it, and if you attempt it, you will meet with such failure and rebuke from the Lord as to make you sorely penitent.

Others may boast of themselves, of their work, of their successes, of their writings, but the Holy Spirit will not allow you to do any such thing, and if you begin it, He will lead you into some deep mortification that will make you despise yourself and all your good works.

Others may be allowed to succeed in making money, or may have a legacy left to them, but it is likely God will keep you poor, because He wants you to have something far better than gold, namely, a helpless dependence upon Him, that He may have the privilege of supplying your needs day by day out of an unseen treasury.

The Lord may let others be honored and put forward, and keep you hidden in obscurity, because He wants to produce some choice fragrant fruit for His coming glory, which can only be produced in the shade. He may let others be great, but keep you small. He may let others do a work for Him and get the credit for it, but He will make you work and toil on without knowing how much you are doing; and then to make your work still more precious He may let others get credit for the work which you have done, and thus make your reward ten times greater when Jesus comes.

The Holy Spirit will put a strict watch over you, with a jealous love, and will rebuke you for little words and feelings or for wasting your time, which other Christians never feel distressed over. So make up your mind that God is an infinite Sovereign and has a right to do as He pleases with His own. He may not explain to you a thousand things which puzzle your reason in His dealings with you, but if you absolutely sell yourself to be His love slave, He will wrap you up in a jealous love and bestow upon you many blessings which come only to those who are in the inner circle.

Settle it forever, then, that you are to deal directly with the Holy Spirit, and that He is to have the privilege of tying your tongue, or chaining your hand, or closing your eyes, in ways that He does not seem to use with others. Now, when you are so possessed with the living God that you are, in your secret heart, pleased and delighted over this peculiar, personal, private, jealous guardianship and management of the Holy Spirit over your life, you will have found the vestibule of Heaven.

-George D. Watson.

For information concerning the author of this article, see p. 5 ff.