Morale Booster

I was so happy to receive another Good News so soon. Is this an indication that we'll be getting more than two issues a year now? I hope so; nothing can replace the Good News for stirring the whole church unitedly on spiritual matters, or for giving us a concise, big-picture account of the latest news in the Work.

We hear rumors and bits of news so fast, we lose sight of trends and fulfillment of prophecies. Seeing the great gratitude and humility and faith of our brethren in "the field" and articles such as were contained in this Good News are a real boost to morale and dedication. We thank God for our brethren, who pray for us, and the ministry who guide and teach us.

R. R., Altadena, California

*That's right—we're striving to publish the GOOD NEWS on a regular basis! You can look forward to many articles about the Work and general Christian growth and overcoming.*

Patience

I've read many articles about patience in the last few years. But never have they had a positive effect on my life. Being in a state of lethargy and discouragement, I happened to be at a friend's house last night. He mentioned your article. I had just received my Good News the day before. So upon arising this morning I began reading the article. Before finishing the article my eyes were filled with tears and I was thanking God for the kind of loving Father He is, and for His wonderful way of life. This article has helped me greatly to understand and react properly to various difficulties on the job and in my personal life! Thank you very much for this food to grow on.

L. J., Houston, Texas

Being presently unemployed, I felt the article on patience written by Dr. Zimmerman in the new Good News was specifically for me. I have found myself bitter and resentful rather than forgiving, understanding, patient and loving. Thanks for such spiritual food!

T. S., Toledo, Ohio

Encouraged

Thank you for the May-June 1971 Good News. When I completed the reading of the first article I thought that I must write my "thank you." Upon finishing each article in order, the same feeling welled up. Now, having read completely to the exclamation mark on the last page, I say, how wonderfully inspiring! What a privilege and blessing to receive such encouraging and informative writings. Thank you.

Elise L., Columbus, Ohio

Sinai Trip

Please pass on to Drs. Hoeh and Martin the heartfelt thanks for wonderfully inspiring articles on the visit to Mt. Sinai. As a Church of God member I am inspired greatly by articles, pictures and maps like these, and I pray God will allow other journeys and more revelation of truths to make this way of life truly the very best for us all.

Pass on to the editors of Tomorrow's World my deep appreciation for all the articles. Keep up the articles and pictures about the Work, however small it may seem, for every phase and facet of God's Work is meat to us all who know and understand.

W. E. B., Zanesville, Ohio

I really enjoyed the articles, especially the one by Dr. Hoeh on the visit to Mt. Sinai. It made me feel almost as if I could see the Israelites all the way through their journey.

Mrs. R. K., Mesa, Arizona

Faith

The article in The Good News on "Faith" by Mr. Portune really hit me hard between the eyes. I have seen the movies on some of the inner workings of the mighty Work being done on earth by God through the hands of man. The paragraph on God's Church needing to be collectively and unitedly confident and filled with faith and totally behind what God is doing, made me realize how lax I had become. I fell down on my knees and cried out to God for forgiveness and promised Him I would get on the ball right away. Please thank Mr. Portune for me, for this article. It was just what I needed to shake me up.

R. E. M., Washington, D.C.
TO YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT
THE FOREIGN WORK

In this article, the Vice President of the Foreign Educational Service answers many of your questions about God's Work outside the United States, and discusses the new doors God is opening up to the "Foreign Work."

by Ronald L. Dart

The sun never sets on the Work of God! No matter where you travel in this wide world, you are never far from a Church of God or an office of Ambassador College. Though by the world's standards this Work is still small, no longer can it be compared to a grain of mustard seed.

In the month of July, 1971 The Plain Truth was printed and mailed to over two million subscribers. It went out in five languages to nearly every nation on this planet! One third of those magazines went into what we in the United States have come to call the "Foreign Work."

Yet most of our members are very much in the dark about the progress and the extent of this part of God's Work. Wherever we go we are deluged with questions about the Foreign Work.

Since we are often unable to answer all the questions, we've decided to answer in The Good News those questions most asked.

Q. Exactly how many offices do we have outside the United States, and when were they opened?
A. We now have ten offices in five continents. We list them here in the order of their beginning:

- Sydney, Australia ..... December, 1959
- Vancouver, Canada ..... February, 1961
- Düsseldorf, West Germany ..... April, 1962
- Manila, Philippines ..... July, 1962
- Geneva, Switzerland ..... October, 1963
- Johannesburg, South Africa ..... February, 1964
- Jerusalem, Israel ..... April, 1967
- Mexico City, Mexico ..... October, 1967
- Auckland, New Zealand ..... August, 1968

In addition to these, we have two other areas where men are handling limited amounts of mail besides carrying out ministerial responsibilities. Mr. Robert Flores in Santiago de Chile forwards mail from a local post office box to Big Sandy for handling; and Mr. Russell Johnson in Salisbury, Rhodesia picks up, processes, and forwards to Johannesburg all the mail from the Rhodesian areas. These are not mailing offices, but mail receiving offices.

Q. How many churches do we have abroad?
A. We now have a total of 58 Churches and 13 Bible Studies outside of the United States, and the attendance in July averaged over 12,000. These people are ministered to by 78 ordained ministers.

Q. How many foreign language editions of The Plain Truth are published and what is their circulation? What about Tomorrow's World? The Ambassador College Correspondence Course?
A. In addition to the English language, The Plain Truth magazine is published in French, German, Spanish and Dutch. We do not yet have a Tomorrow's World magazine in foreign languages. However, Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has given the go-ahead, and, God willing, Tomorrow's World will begin in all four languages by January of 1972. The circulation figures for our foreign language magazines as of August 31st are as follows:

- Spanish ..... 81,700
- French ..... 54,591
- German ..... 53,602
- Dutch ..... 13,459

We also, of course, have a great deal of material published in the Italian language to complement Mr. Frank Inglima's Italian broadcast aired in Canada. We are on two stations there with a modest response. As soon as we
are able to produce a magazine in Italian, we would like very much to advertise in Italy.

The Correspondence Course has long been available in the French, German and Spanish languages.

Q. What progress is being made in opening up new areas such as Scandinavia?

A. One of the chief problems we encounter in any new foreign area is language. It isn’t easy to just decide to “start a Danish Work,” for instance. In such any situation you need translators, mail readers, letter answerers, and before very long even ministers. So far, the number of Scandinavian students who have come through Ambassador College is very limited and comes nowhere near giving us the manpower we need to do a large Scandinavian Work.

However, the Scandinavian Work began anyway several months ago. It occurred to us that the English language is spoken very widely in Scandinavia and that we might be able to reach many people effectively in English. With that in mind, we ran seven ads in English in the Norwegian, Swedish, and Danish editions of Reader’s Digest. What surprised us most was that our immediate response was just as high as we could have expected if we had advertised in Norwegian, Swedish, and Danish! We had over 6,000 on the mailing list at one time, and even after renewing all the trial subscriptions, we now have over 3,000 regular Plain Truth subscribers in those countries.

Bear in mind that all these subscribers are bilingual. They speak English besides their native tongue. Our mail is already beginning to indicate a change in the lives of many of these people. Soon there will be an increase in applications for admission to Ambassador College from Scandinavia and eventually a pool of translators who will be sympathetic to the goals and purposes of The Plain Truth magazine!

So the Scandinavian Work is off to a good start, having started much larger and faster than most areas of the Foreign Work.

Meanwhile, we have also made a start in the Danish language. Three Danish translators are at work, and a great deal of our material is already translated. Our first Danish language booklet — The Seven Laws of Success — came off the press a little over a month ago. As finances are available, and as we develop the necessary systems for getting into print, we should be able to produce a Danish language magazine.

Q. Has anything more been done concerning a Japanese Work?

A. The same problems mentioned above in relation to the Scandinavian Work have prevented us from going ahead at the present time in the Japanese language. Yet, the Japanese Work, too, has already started! The first ad in the Japanese edition of Reader’s Digest appeared in the August issue in English. We are expecting a good response from these advertisements and we should very rapidly develop a solid core of bilingual Japanese readers.

Meanwhile, two Japanese students have been accepted to Ambassador College for the autumn term this year. Preparation is being made, and when God opens the door in the Japanese language, we will be able to walk through.

Q. With no broadcast in England for several years, how is the Work being carried on there?

A. The Work in England is doing much better than you would expect considering the limited doors that have been opened to us. Basically, the Work in England has been built by Radio Luxembourg, Reader’s Digest, two and a half years of offshore radio stations, and an advertising campaign which encompassed the Sunday Times, the Sunday Express, the Daily Telegraph, Drive magazine, the Glasgow Weekly News, and a later campaign in Reader’s Digest. All in all, through the years a total of 262,000 people have responded directly to ads or broadcasts in Great Britain, and the British mailing list in July stood at 116,000 subscribers.

But the best is yet to come. We recently ran a small experiment in Great Britain by putting The Plain Truth magazine on newsstands! It now appears that as a method of building the mailing list, this may be one of the most efficient we have ever tried. We often judge the effectiveness of our media by our cost per new subscriber. These costs range from just over a dollar for very good advertising to as much as $15.00 per new subscriber for poor radio stations or poor ads.

The newsstand magazines brought in new subscribers at a rate of $1.25 per person. Not bad. But it doesn’t really tell the whole story. People in England are accustomed to getting magazines from newsstands rather than subscribing directly to the publishers. Therefore, there must be a great number of additional readers who have not sub-
...Around the World

COLIN A. WILKINS
Geneva, Switzerland

ROBERT E. FAHEY
Johannesburg, S. Africa

RICHARD J. FRANKEL
Jerusalem, Israel

ENRIQUE T. RUIZ
Mexico City, Mexico

GRAEMME J. MARSHALL
Auckland, New Zealand

scribed — hence we cannot count them accurately — but who expect to continue getting The Plain Truth regularly from their newsstand.

It's for these reasons that we've stepped into a new phase in the British Work. In September, 50,000 Plain Truth magazines were put on newsstands throughout the British Isles. They were distributed by one of the large chains of news agents and were free of charge. This immediately increased the circulation of The Plain Truth magazine in Britain by 50,000 copies, and the readership by 150,000 to 200,000 persons! We plan to continue this indefinitely, allowing those who wish to pick up their magazine on the newsstands to do so.

Q. Is there any hope of getting on television in foreign areas?

A. Hope? We're on. We're on more foreign TV stations than we are American! Take a look at your television log in The Plain Truth. We are on 23 major stations in Canada and 43 of the smaller satellite stations. The telecast is now available to over 90% of the people in Canada!

This is one of the reasons for the phenomenal growth in the Canadian Work this year. The Vancouver Office began 1971 with a mailing list of 100,000 people. As of July, it was 140,000 and still growing rapidly. That's a 40% increase in just over half a year!

Mr. Ted Armstrong finds himself widely recognized in Canada because of television. Women point him out to their children on the streets, head waiters in restaurants recognize him immediately when he walks in, shopkeepers ask for his autograph.

On the eighth of May this year, the telecast went overseas for the first time. A regular Saturday night telecast at 10:30 began in Manila. The response has not been as great as in Canada because there are not nearly as many television sets per capita in Manila as there are in Canada. Still, the response is gratifying, and the quality of the response is good.

In addition, at least one telecast has been shown in Rhodesia. The television station in Salisbury would be quite willing to run our telecasts, if their video tape system were compatible with the American system. They can run those programs that we have on film, but we have so few of those that no permanent arrangement can yet be made.

However, the Australians have reportedly developed a method for electronic conversion from the American system to the British system which may open up all kinds of TV doors for us overseas. Australian television stations have also expressed an interest in carrying the telecast if we can get by the technical difficulties.

One of the main limiting factors in television is the budget. We could do a great deal more if we had the money. Does that give you any ideas?

Q. What has happened to our Church in Chile? Has the change to a Marxist government affected it in any way?

A. Mr. Robert Flores still conducts services every Sabbath in Santiago, and the Church averages a little over 50 in attendance. He also holds Bible Studies in many outlying areas. Ten people attend every other week in Los Andes, Chile, and another ten meet once a month in Temuco. Mr. Flores also frequently visits Bahia Blanca, Argentina, where 65 people assemble, and has met with a group of eight in Paysandu, Uruguay.

There are also other small groups he meets with from time to time. Many of them belong to an organization called the Israelite Church of the New Covenant, which differs rather remarkably from most divisions of the “Sardis” Church — they keep not only the Sabbath, but all the annual Holy Days as well. But their Pentecost is on Sunday instead of Monday and their Passover on the evening of the 15th, rather than the evening of the 14th. At least they're trying.

Often the pastors of these congregations ask Mr. Flores to visit their churches and speak to the people. Mr. Flores' accounts of these visits read much like the Apostle Paul's account of his visits to the synagogues throughout Asia and into Europe. Some people scoff, some are openly hostile, some say, "We will hear you again on this matter" — but only a small handful have a converted attitude. A few are very much alive and fervently concerned about God's Work. They are scattered from one side of the South American continent to the other, but they recognize our people immediately upon contact!

The change in Chile's government has had little direct effect on the membership in the area, but indirectly there is some insecurity and uncertainty about the future. Mr. Flores has been unable to obtain a permanent Chilean visa and still has to leave periodically to renew a temporary tourist visa.

The members are gradually growing and a good foundation is being laid
ERHARD KLAMMER
German

FRANK P. INGLIMA
Italian

PABLO GONZALEZ
Spanish

DIBAR K. APARTIAN
French

throughout Latin America. Tours are being planned to contact 126 persons who have requested visits. These are mostly scattered new people who have come to the knowledge of the truth through the Spanish edition of The Plain Truth, La Pura Verdad. (Visit requests in Mexico and Central America are taken care of separately by Mr. Enrique Ruiz from Mexico City.)

Some of you have heard that Mr. Ruiz has been ill and have asked about him. He was stricken with typhoid fever and contracted hepatitis at the same time. The doctor felt that he was very near death, but God has healed him and he is back at work, though still a bit weak and not yet able to handle his full work load. Mr. Ruiz pastors a church in Mexico City which averages about twenty in attendance. In addition, he conducts occasional Bible Studies in Guadalajara and other Mexican cities.

You'll get a good idea of the comparative distribution of La Pura Verdad by studying the box which shows the worldwide circulation of The Plain Truth magazine.

Q. How are the brethren in the Philippines faring?

A. They are remaining faithful through a great fight of afflictions! An article by Mr. Colin Adair in the August Good News explained some of the problems. Basically, the Filipino brethren are a people struggling with deep poverty and severe trials and temptations, yet who are remaining solidly faithful to the Work and to the Word of God.

During a recent financial crisis, the question arose as to whether we could afford to keep the Filipino office open. Word that we considered closing the office down reached the Filipinos, and they responded with prayer, fasting, and giving to such an extent that the Work in the Philippines became internally self-supporting within a month or so. At the time of this writing, we are sending no money from Headquarters to the Philippines. These people whose income averages between $35 and $45 per month are carrying most of the weight of the entire expense of the Philippine Work. They are not at present able to pay for the printing of their magazine, all of their radio stations, and a few other external expenses, but they do pay all of their local expenses.

Besides the churches on the island of Luzon, Manila and Urdaneta, we've been working for a long time with another large group on the island of Mindanao at Kiara. These people came to us already meeting together with their own leaders. Consequently, we often have not listed them among our churches. However, their leaders have faithfully taught them from our literature, and have made no effort to draw the people away. More and more of them are being baptized by Mr. Adair, and it's becoming clear that the church in Kiara is composed of your brethren.

At present, there is almost a civil war raging on the island of Mindanao and our brethren are caught in the middle. There is a “Christian” versus Moslem religious element in the fighting, but it seems to go even further than that. The following letter from Mr. Adair will help you to understand the situation:

Mr. Benitez arrived from Kiara Sunday evening. I have been talking with him all this morning about the situation there. But first of all let me give you the full letter which I received from his brother, just as he wrote it:

You might be amazed upon receipt of this letter, since I have not written to you personally. I think it is now the exact time to pen down this important things.

Sir, I'm sorry to tell you that the trouble which started in Pikit Cotabato a month ago had already reach in our place. We could see in the distance the day and night burning of houses. We discuss these things with Mr. Benitez my elder brother, and other important men in our locality. Other assumed that this will not harm us. But last night at 2:00 a.m., we were awaken by gun-fire. It was the house of my neighbour in the other side of the river. I have seen the flying red bullets that hit the house. At the third firing the family had awaken from their deep sleep and had realize their death. I know because we could hear the crying of mother and children. While they were crying the house start burning.

In the absence of my mind due to long sleep I push the door instead of pulling it. We rush down with my four children and it was difficult to escape because the whole place was lighted. We make it thru the shadow of our house. What an arduous escape we made. We run to the
# Plain Truth and Tomorrow’s World Worldwide Circulation

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*All military personnel included*

### COUNTRIES NOT RECEIVING AMBASSADOR COLLEGE MAGAZINES

- Albania
- Andorra
- Bhutan
- Chad
- China
- Congo
- Gabon
- Mauritania
- Monaco
- Mongolia
- Nauru
- Niger
- North Korea
- North Vietnam
- Qatar
- Rwanda
- Togo
- Upper Volta
- Vatican City
- Western Samoa

### Note: Circulation figures are as of August 1971

### Territories, Pro tec tors & Other Areas

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**Totals:** 2,078,060 ... 745,974
ricefield, while there we prayed God for protection and deliverance from the horror. The trouble now has worn off. Right morning before I wrote this letter a mother was hauled in a jeep being hit in her breast in three places by bullets and still alive and breathing. We could witness massacre every day. It is not only the Ilagas and the Muslims that create trouble. The counterfeited Ilagas massacre many kind. It was a group of people that arrange to kill their enemies of long ago. Some of them who are poorer than the poor join this band to solve their problems. strike and hit anybody. The sound of guns is the music of the day! If you will receive the escaped into your hot land give the brethren in Kiara and you will be slain the following night. We do not know where to go because we are not sure who is the enemy. The Free Press and the Philippine Herald have no knowledge about this. This shows that the government is ignorant about these things. Our big problem now is our food. We could not farm, our land is in the troubled area.

Please join us in your prayer that God will continue to protect us and deliver us from this trouble. Please inform me what to do. Shall we vacate the area, and move to another place in Mindanao? Some of the brethren are fortunate because their lands are situated far from the trouble area. But we are certain that this will spread all over Mindanao because we have seen the progress of the trouble. I pray your fervent prayer help us in this time of trouble.

It's quite a letter, isn't it? And the trouble has spread since he wrote this on July 25. The Manila Times headline this morning is, "Blackshirts Get Ultimatum." The Blackshirts are members of the M.I.M. (Mindanao Independent Movement). The ultimatum came from General Garcia, C. P. commander. He is demanding surrender by August 15. But I doubt very much if anything like that will happen. The fighting is now in four provinces after an initial start in Cotabato.

Mr. Benitez gave me the following facts: We have over 100 families in the area, most of them relying on the land for their livelihoods. None of the women and children have been moved to the safety of the nearby towns, leaving only the men to work the land and flee if trouble arrives. Mr. Benitez himself wants to move his family to Don Carlos. You see, Kiara is a settlement right off the main highway into the interior. There is only one access to the place, and no communications whatever to the nearby towns. Trouble could easily arrive there and there would be no means of help at all. There are, of course, no government troopers in the area. So it is pretty isolated.

I have decided, on Mr. Benitez's recommendations, to advise the individual families to move if they can, rather than try to move everyone as a whole. Many of them have relatives in other parts of the Philippines. At the same time we have decided to cancel the Feast in Kiara and hold it instead in Don Carlos, which is a town right on the main highway and where we also have a small church. It will mean hiring a tent for services, for our building there could hold the 700 people expected to attend. I will be sending a mem-

ber letter to all informing them of the change. Unfortunately, the plot of land I mentioned in the telex as a possible resettlement site is also in a trouble area, not far north, so that it is now out. It would be almost a case of out of the frying pan into the fire. However, Pike Miro's brother-in-law is well known in Palawan, a large island to the west of the mainland, and he could possibly arrange for some land to be made available to the church for homekeeping. Of course this will take some time to arrange, if available. Also, we have a member in the Negros area of the Visayas who may be able to provide some land for the people. Mr. Benitez is hoping, naturally, that the trouble will die down so they won't have to move. It means losing their homes and land. But I have advised him to start making preparations to move, anyway, and if the trouble is settled they can always change their mind and stay. So now we plan to dismantle the tabernacle building erected a while back in Kiara (it's a shame because it is a fine building — I saw it in March) and sell the material. Also, Mr. Benitez was building a home and he will now do the same with it. 

So the outcome is that they will begin preparations to move immediately and take steps to protect their families. At the same time we will try to find a resettlement area. Individual families will move as possible. In short, unless things settle down the church will be dispersed in all directions, but many of them may be able to get where there are other members, and even some might be able to get to a church area. If the Palawan plan materializes, then perhaps a group might be able to move there. Mr. Benitez is concerned that it means less support for the church here and perhaps a burden on us helping them. His heart is in the right place. I have assured him that the safety and security of his people comes before anything else.

Will let you know how things go with the brethren in Kiara as Mr. Benitez keeps me informed.

Q. Why do you call it the "Foreign Work"?
A. The question may sound a little strange to some of our American readers, but our European members will immediately grasp the reason for it. They are not "foreigners." When I'm visiting a European, South African, Australian, or even Canadian Church, I am the foreigner.

The phrase "Foreign Work" is rapidly becoming obsolete — there is not part of the world that is "foreign" to this Work.

Nevertheless, the title "Foreign Work" has special meaning for all of us no matter what our nationality. In giving the "great commission," Christ was not merely directing those instructions to his twelve apostles. It was a commission not to one man or one group of men, but for the entire Church through all ages. He told them: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matt. 28:19).

It is, of course, understandable that we take the Gospel to our own people first. After all, Christ sent the Gospel first to the Jews. But it wasn't long before he told the apostles to get out of their own country and away from their own people and to preach the Gospel to the Gentiles — to the whole world.

The initial thrust of the "Foreign Work" came from Jerusalem. Peter was the first to carry the Gospel to a Gentile, and in a very short time a church had been established in Antioch, of which many of the members were Gentile.

Strangely though, the impetus for the Foreign Work continued not from Jerusalem, but from Antioch! It was to those in Antioch that the Holy Spirit spoke saying, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them" (Acts 13:2).

And so the Foreign Work moved out into Asia Minor. The Headquarters was still Jerusalem, but the base of operations for this part of the Foreign Work was not Jerusalem, but Antioch. So it becomes clear that the commission to go into all the world applied not only to the Jerusalem Church, but to each and every Church that was later established. For example, the Church at Philippi supported Paul during most of his work in Corinth. He had little contact with Antioch and Jerusalem and apparently received no financial help from them. What help he got, he got from a Church that was itself a part of the Foreign Work.

And so the Work of God continued down through the ages. The Foreign Work extended on into Spain, Scythia and Armenia, eventually finding its way back across Europe to England. Then finally, the "Foreign Work" reached out and evangelized North America! We Americans, now so vigorously pursuing the "Foreign Work," were not so very long ago ourselves the field of the Foreign Work.

In these latter times, the primary base of operations for the Foreign Work has (Continued on back cover)
Most of God’s ministers have been asked this question on numerous occasions — especially by those who are new in the Church. This article will give you many helpful tips on how you can PRAY EFFECTIVELY for God’s Work!

by Brian Knowles

Your prayer time is one of the most critical areas of your entire Christian life. Yet it is an area of frequent discouragement and frustration. Why? Because many tend to get into a rut in their prayers. Let’s analyze the problem and see how the pattern often emerges.

In the Beginning...

When you were baptized the chances are you didn’t know a great deal about what real prayer was. It is likely you were accustomed to the traditional “sleepy-time prayer” that most little children learn — “Now I lay me down to sleep...” Perhaps you had been taught to repeat the “Lord’s Prayer.” Then again, you may have practiced some other form of vain repetition involving the use of beads or a similar device. Or you may never have prayed any kind of “prayer.”

After you learned that you should pray, you probably had much difficulty with those first shaky, unsure attempts. Perhaps it was hard to get the words out. Possibly you had learned that the words of Christ in Matthew 6 were intended as an outline for prayer. You discovered they were not meant to be vainly repeated over and over again until they lost their meaning. That knowledge may have represented a major breakthrough for you.

So you opened your Bible to Matthew 6 when you prayed and went down the line. You hallowed God’s name, asked Him to send His Kingdom and to do His will on earth. You asked God to forgive you for your sins and to provide you with your “daily bread.” You requested that God would not lead you into some trial and that He would deliver you from the evil one (Satan). Then you probably said “In Jesus Christ’s name, Amen.” You were not vainly repeating the prayer in exactly the words of the Bible, but you were using it as a guideline for prayer and you were doing fine.

But after awhile it began to be “old hat.” Your days as a novice in prayer were over. Now you wanted to go on to “bigger things.” But you were a creature of habit like we all are. It was hard to break away from that outline and pray from original thought. Once a “Lord’s Prayer” man — always a “Lord’s Prayer” man — or so it seemed.

Others get into other kinds of ruts. It’s not always the “Lord’s Prayer” rut. Another common one is the “pray for the ministry” rut. This is where you have gotten into the habit of praying for the ministers, starting with Mr. Herbert Armstrong and working your way down the list until you come to your own local area. But, of course, such lists can become obsolete — and most names on a list may be meaningless to you unless you know the person.

Maybe you are praying for Mr. Hargrove “down in New Orleans” and then you suddenly realize he’s been in Phoenix for some time. Perhaps you’re still praying for Mr. Docken in the Philippines when you find out he was recently at Headquarters and is now in Australia. And with over 500 ministers it certainly gets complicated keeping track of who’s where.

Sometimes the names get mixed up. For example, there is Mr. Pinelli and there is Mr. Panella. There is Mr. Glen White and Mr. Valden White. There are several Mr. Coles. There are two Mr. Albert Fortunes and a Mr. John Fortune. There are two Mr. Neffs, two Mr. Clarks, two Mr. Waterhouses and several Mr. McNairs. It all gets very confusing, doesn’t it?

We might as well realize, brethren, that with so many ministers around the world, praying for all of them by name could become a full-time job! It’s just not practical anymore to use such a list of ministers as a “prayer list.” But that does not mean you should give up praying for the ministry, of course! Paul said, “Brethren, PRAY FOR US.” The question is not whether to pray for the ministry, but HOW.

Trying to pray a comprehensive, sincere and meaningful prayer for every minister in the Church by name has become impractical and virtually impossible. The main thing is that you pray for all the ministers in a general way, but zeroing in on those ministers who have key functions in the Work. Mr. Herbert Armstrong and Mr. Ted Armstrong are especially in need of constant prayers for protection, wisdom and success in doing the most critical functions in the Work today! This is explained
more fully later in this article. And each member should certainly pray for his own local ministers in his own area.

There are many other nuts you can get into in prayer. Everyone has his own problem in this area. Every once in awhile we all need to take a "refresher course" in prayer and other aspects of Christian living from God's Word. Perhaps you need to re-examine the whole subject of prayer to gain a refreshing new perspective!

**What Is “Vain Repetition?”**

Some have felt that a vain repetition is only a memorized prayer such as the traditional concept of the “Lord's Prayer,” or the meaningless repetition of multiple “hail Mary's.” But that's not all a vain repetition is. *Almost any prayer can become vain!* To be “vain” means to be worthless, ineffectual — a waste of time and effort.

Such a pointless babbling and mumbling of trite and insincere words is an easy habit to slip into. It can be like driving an automobile. If you've driven a long time you begin to drive more or less automatically. An experienced driver often will drive for miles, deep in thought, and not realize exactly where he has been! Perhaps you've had this experience. Some pray like this. They may be “logging time” and suddenly look up and not realize exactly what they've been discussing in their prayer!

Notice how the New English Bible translates Matthew 6:7: “In your prayers do not go babbling on like the heathen, who imagine that the more they say the more likely they are to be heard. Do not imitate them.”

“Sleepy time prayers” usually fall into this category. Mumbling into a pillow when you are half asleep is *utterly ineffectual!* You know how difficult it is to listen to a person who is talking to you when he is sleepy and drones on aimlessly, losing his train of thought frequently and repeating himself. It seems like he is not really interested in you, but that he is merely talking to hear the sound of his own voice. Well, how do you think God feels when *His children* are praying to Him in a half-hearted, disinterested way?

When you pray, be *alert,* awake and aware of what you are saying to your Creator and why you are saying it! Remember the warning in Matthew 12:36: “But I say unto you, That *every idle word that men shall speak,* they *shall give account thereof* in the day of judgment.”

Would you like to have to go down the line and account for hours of aimless, meaningless blathering before God's throne? Surely not! Realize then that in order to be effective a prayer must be earnest, fervent and *sincere* (James 5:16).

**What to Pray About**

*How you pray* is important. *When* you pray is a factor. Your *attitude* in praying is critical. *How often and how long* you pray are important considerations. But perhaps most important and vital of all is *what* you pray!

Undoubtedly there have been many prayers in history that were prayed in all fervency, at the best time, of reasonable length, in alertness and sincerity — and yet were completely *ineffectual*.

Why? Because the person praying was asking for the wrong thing!

If you expect God to answer your prayers you must ask Him for things that are within the realm of His will. Christ said, “… *Not my will but thine be done…*” Notice how John was inspired to express it: “And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we *ask any thing according to his will,* he heareth us; and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him” (I John 5:14-15).

What is God's will, and where can we find it?

We find the will of God expressed throughout His Word, the Bible. We must search the Scriptures if we are to know what God wishes us to pray for and what kind of prayer He will respond to.

Of course, the most basic starting point is *Matthew 6,* where the traditional “Lord's Prayer” outline is found. These principles are basic and fundamental. Our article “The Answer to Unanswered Prayer” gives much instruction and help in understanding how to use these principles.

It is not the purpose of this article to cover the same territory that is already amply covered in reprint articles readily available to church members. Rather, it is intended to point out some additional areas where you can extend yourself in prayer. (If you do not have the above-mentioned article be sure to write for it.)

**How to Pray for God's Work**

Most members are aware of the critical need to pray for the Work of God. In fact this is the *most important area* for prayer! But how to do this can be a problem.

Simply asking God to “bless the Work” or “bless the money” or “bless the broadcast” is not sufficient. It is important to break your prayers down fine and be specific! So to pray for the Work you must *know the needs of the Work.*

How can you know those needs?

There are a number of ways. First of all be sure to read and digest all the *member and Co-Worker letters* from Mr. Herbert Armstrong. As you read you will see the needs of God's great Work explained in vivid detail. Underline important sections. Open the letters before you in your prayer closet and *use them* as guidelines for praying for God's Work.

Secondly, be certain to listen closely to the *announcements* in your local Church area every Sabbath and at Bible Studies. Often they will contain important news of God's Work. Most ministers read from the *Ministerial Bulletin* which they receive from Headquarters. It contains up-to-the-minute news of God's Work worldwide! Here you will learn of the progress of the radio and TV broadcasts and important contacts with world leaders that God is granting His servants. Mr. Meredith often writes of recent developments in the churches in the United States and the progress of the Tomorrow's World Bible Lectures. Mr. Ronald Dart has news about the Foreign Educational Service (the “Foreign Work”). As your minister reads portions of his Bulletin, be sure to jot down pertinent points that need your prayers!

A third way to keep up with what is going on in the Work is to thoroughly
read every issue of The Good News. News about God's Work on the three campuses and in the foreign offices has appeared in the pages of The Good News, and will continue to be presented in every issue.

Another source of information about the Work of God is your Tomorrow's World magazine. Progress at the "dig" in Jerusalem, the foreign offices, activities at the three campuses including printing, television and other areas, have been discussed in recent issues. Be sure to read them and note the areas you can pray about.

Yet another source of prayer material regarding God's Work can be found in the radio and television logs of your Plain Truth. In every issue you will notice that some station listings are accompanied by an asterisk. This indicates a new station or a time change. When God grants us a new station or a new time it is certainly important and worthwhile to pray that He will cause the broadcast to be successful there in reaching many new listeners!

Pray for the Ministry

The prime function of the ministry of God is to preach the Gospel to the world. Its secondary function is to feed the Church of God.

God has mainly used Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong and Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong as the vanguard of the first commission. It has fallen their responsibility to take the message to this world through the media of the press, radio and television. Essentially the other ministers and all non-ordained personnel have backed up the ministry of these two men.

But today many of our other ministers also reach unconverted people in a personal way. Dozens of additional evangelists, pastors and preaching elders have been pressed into service in the Tomorrow's World Bible Lectures. They are speaking directly to unconverted people by the thousands. These men need your prayers to fulfill this important responsibility. They need your prayers for wisdom, understanding and the ability to communicate their life-saving messages to the minds of those who attend.

Perhaps putting you in the picture will help you realize just how important it is that you pray fervently and daily for those who are in the forefront of the Work of God in all areas!

Just think! What would you say to kings, prime ministers and other world leaders if you were suddenly ushered into their presence? How would you handle yourself in a royal palace or at a banquet attended by numerous dignitaries from foreign countries? Mr. Herbert Armstrong has been in such situations quite often lately. He needs your prayers for wisdom and discretion! And all of God's servants need your prayers for protection as they fly around the world or drive from city to city to perform the commission God has entrusted to them!

God is not using supermen to do His Work! They are flesh and blood like yourselves who feel pain, have emotions, weaknesses and cares. Even the great prophet Elijah was "a man of like passions as we are..." (James 5:17). When the apostles Paul and Barnabas were doing the Work of God among the people of Lystra they told them, "We also are men of like passions with you..." (Acts 14:15). They were mere flesh and blood human beings with weaknesses and sicknesses, fears and problems. Yet they were used by God to do a great Work!

When the brethren got behind them and prayed for them, miracles happened! On two occasions God actually sent angels to release the Apostle Peter and others from Roman prisons! Read about it yourself in Acts 5:17-19; 12:1-12.

Paul appealed to the brethren: "Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course [that God's Work may be allowed to be accomplished]...and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not [the] faith" (II Thes. 3:1-2). Paul is a minister of God and a rewarder of the work of the Lord: "God is not unjust to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewn toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister" (Hebrews 6:10).

Being a minister of God is a rewarding and much blessed occupation, but it can also be a very dangerous one! It is historically true to say that most of God's leading ministers have been martyred for their service in God's Work. Not everyone believes as we do, brethren, and not everyone is reasonable about it. God's ministers need divine protection and help to freely fulfill their commission! Pray often and fervently about this.

Pray Thankfully

All of our prayers should be mingled with gratitude toward God for all the blessings He so abundantly and frequently "dumps" on all of us. God instructs us, "...Be ye thankful...do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Col. 3:15, 17).

We should thank God just as fervently after we receive what we asked for as we were fervent when we prayed for it!

God has blessed us with a greatly increased circulation of our literature. We have been granted many more radio and television stations in recent years. New churches are being constantly raised up all over the world. More dedicated men are being ordained to the ministry. Our building program in Pasadena and elsewhere has grown throughout the years, providing a fine and appropriate setting for the training of tomorrow's leaders. God has seen us through one financial crisis after another. Let's never neglect to thank Him for all these blessings fervently, and often!

Pray for Those Not in the Ministry

In recent years the importance of non-ministerial personnel has become increasingly evident in the Work of God. Today thousands in God's Work are not ordained ministers. Yet many of these people hold critical and key positions in the Work. These men are employed in vital editorial, press, legal, administrative and other areas. The Work of God needs them. And they in turn need your prayers and support.

The writers for all of our Ambassador College publications need to be inspired by God if they are to say the correct things in the right way. Wouldn't you wish for God's inspiration if you had to sit down and write an article to millions of Plain Truth and Tomorrow's World readers? Where would you start? How would you know your "proofs" would stand the test of (Continued on back cover)
THE SIN OF INDIFFERENCE

Indifference, apathy, nonchalance and lack of concern for others are the signs of our calloused, uninvolved age. Could these attitudes have rubbed off on you without your realizing it? Check on yourself by reading this article.

by Walter R. Sharp

MAHMOUD SLIEMAN ZAK, 15, had one ambition in life—to become a full-fledged member of the Palestinian guerrillas. Sitting in the shade of a building near a highway in Gaza, fondly handling a grenade, he wondered if he would have a chance to use it on somebody.

That same sultry day, Robert Aroyo, his wife Preeti and their children Marc-Daniel, age 7, and Abigail, age 4, decided to visit a seaside camp in the Sinai. The police felt there was no peril in taking such a trip. So the Aroyos set out in their car.

As they approached Gaza, a friend of Mahmoud's sauntered into the street, forcing them to slow down. At that instant, Mahmoud pulled the pin on his grenade and tossed it onto the back seat of the car. There was a muffled explosion and a wail, “Daddy, daddy, my back is broken!” And then silence—little Marc-Daniel and Abigail were killed and Robert Aroyo's wife suffered injuries to the spine.

But Mahmoud was indifferent. He didn't care—he hated the Israelis with a vehement passion.

Such tragic stories happen all the time all over the world. In every nation, among all races, similar events have occurred. Only the time, place, participants and circumstances vary.

Indifference or Indignation?

How do you react at reading such a story? Does it grab your emotions—clutch at your stomach? Does it make you literally sick at the gross humanness of man to man in this modern, reeling world?

You live in a world gone mad. Riots, muggings, murder, rape, starvation, brutality are commonplace—so much so that unless we are on our guard we can become oblivious and hardened to what is happening around us.

Stop and think. You live in a world where venereal disease strikes children 10 to 14 years old. Where gonorrhea is America's most common contagious disease, after the common cold and measles. Where young males “prance” up and down the streets in women's slacks, high heels and long hair. Where high schools are infested with prostitution rings and dope peddlers.

Every base act and foul crime imaginable is committed in our modern Godless society. But it is the rare person today who still has the sensitivity to be moved and shocked into a sense of abhorrence by what is taking place!

Most people today simply don't care. They lead insulated lives. They are the “silent majority”—the mass of “uninvolved.” Most don't want to be disturbed by the facts. Most are caught up in a binge of self-love and a driving greed to gorge their desires and glut their appetites. Millions today are filled with indifference toward the welfare of their country, their neighbors and anyone but themselves—having become totally APATHETIC!

Not long ago in the Baton Rouge, Louisiana area, a group of 60 people watched two children vainly struggle for their lives in a local river and no one lifted a hand to help! They were so indifferent and past feeling that they did nothing at all. The children drowned.

Indifference is a deadly cancer corrupting the entire world in this end time. It is a product of selfishness and the abundance of SIN!

It Was Prophesied

The Apostle Paul prophesied that in these last days living itself would be perilous. He foretold that men would be motivated only by an inward, thoughtless love for themselves. They would be incapable of showing the natural affection of one human toward another. Unconcerned for anyone but themselves, they would be arrogant, pushy—even fierce (II Tim. 3:1-4).

These are people so caught up in the swirl of their own family, their own lives, that they can nonchalantly watch two children fight a losing battle for their lives and not lift a finger to help.

Brethren, it is our materialistic, grasping, competitive, “keeping up with the Joneses” way of life that spawns this shoulder-shrugging, indifferent “who cares?” attitude! We need to realize that this is the typical attitude of the society in which we live. You and I live in a world permeated with just such an approach to life!

And it has INFLUENCED US! That fact we need to recognize and ponder.

Because sin would become so preva-
lent and simply be taken as the norm, Jesus predicted that some in God’s Church would lose their love and concern for others. Some, He said, would become so passive and indifferent to the appalling, shocking conditions of their environment that they would become spiritually cold! “And because iniquity [lawlessness — sin] shall abound, the love [of God and righteousness] of many shall wax cold” (Matt. 24:12).

He indicated some would become so hardened to rampant lawlessness, they would even leave the Church of God!

Why will they leave? Because those who take the sins of this world for granted and cannot sigh and cry for the abominations done in it are going to have that very approach to their own sins and faults! They will be unable to be moved or stirred by articles, sermons, or other correction they receive.

Do You “Sigh and Cry”?

The prophet Ezekiel wrote about our days. One hundred twenty years after ancient Israel had been taken into captivity (around 720 B.C.), he prophesied about a time of future national depravity and resultant captivity of Israel. Ezekiel received the words of God intended especially for the peoples of the Western democratic nations of the British Commonwealth and the United States.

Notice what God showed him was to happen in our lifetime: “And the glory of the God of Israel was gone up from the cherub, whereupon he was, to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed with linen, which had the writer’s inkbhorn by his side; And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.

And to the others he said in mine hearing, Go ye after him through the city, and smile: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity... but come not near any man upon whom is the mark...” (Ezek. 9:3-6).

Few indeed actually “sigh and cry” for all the abominations that be done” in the nations of modern day Israel, and the whole world! Yet those whom God is going to protect are shocked and are stirred to action by the conditions of society — those who cry out to God, when they notice the appalling conditions around them, “Thy kingdom come!” and really mean it.

Can you sincerely say “Thy kingdom come” when you see some poor wretched male dressed like a woman — in women’s slacks and long hair? Are you moved with compassion when you see a ragged blind man playing an accordion with cup in hand on some sidewalk? Do conditions in society really wrench your emotions?

You need to think deeply about the contrast between God’s way of life and the way of carnal man. Indifference in the face of sin, be it the nation’s sins or your own personal sins, will KILL you — both physically and spiritually!

The unconcerned, nonchalant Laodiceans mentioned in Revelation 3:14-18 are specifically characterized as being “lukewarm.” These are the ones who must go through the great tribulation and in many cases suffer death because of their easy tolerance of evil and sin.

These individuals are actually members of the Church of God, but have become infected with the cancer of indifference.

They are not so “cold” as to turn their backs on the Church and on God, but neither are they “hot” enough to be really concerned and to overcome themselves. They no longer hunger and thirst for righteousness. They have lost much of that loyalty and patriotism for God — that sensitivity and abhorrence toward all wrong. No human suffering seems to reach their aloof, calloused, fleshly hearts. Nothing moves them to tears; nothing stirs their compassion or causes them to express deep anguish for the cruel suffering of mankind.

They are self-satisfied, smug, complacent, lethargic, thinking they have need of nothing.

In the book of Hebrews, Paul shows that general indifference toward our spiritual responsibilities can lead to willful sin. And even the unpardonable sin can be the result of an indifferent, “I don’t care” approach to God (Heb. 10:23-29).

Brethren, we must not co-exist with sin. We must not compromise with sin, thereby learning to “live with” or tolerate obvious weaknesses we know we have. We must keep moving forward — overcoming — not allowing ourselves to become infected with the easygoing way of the world!

There is a way that indifference can be overcome and eradicated from your disposition. If you want to rid yourself of this spiritual cancer, put into continual action the following principles:

1. Observe Man’s Present Plight.

Think deeply about the misery of this world as it wallows in its sins. Millions in Pakistan have suffered unbearably in the throes of civil war. Millions in Africa, including innocent little children, are severely malnourished. Hunger and starvation stalk the earth.

Even in our affluent Western countries, millions suffer from mental illness and other diseases, and thousands commit suicide in hopeless desperation yearly. The facts are appalling, wherever you look. Why? Hunger, disease, war and twisted, wretched lives are the result of man’s way without God! As the Apostle Paul explained:

“And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit...” (Rom. 1:28-29).

Don’t hide your eyes from the things happening in this world. Man is reaping the penalty for sin! All these wretched conditions are the automatic results of SIN! Read the rest of Paul’s statement in verses 29-32. Then watch, pray, and deeply realize the resultant misery being endured by billions of humans!


A truly faithful Christian will be leading a joyous, happy, abundant life. He has peace of mind, freedom from worry, fears, anxiety. He knows what is beyond this physical existence. He has a driving, inspiring goal in life and knows how to attain it.

Yes, he has trials, but he knows why and takes them in a right attitude. He is in God’s hands and he knows it. He has real, deep, inner peace and joy.

(Continued on inside back cover)
Do you "sigh and cry" (Ezek. 9:3-6) over the misery and suffering of a world without God's truth? Above, from left to right: malnourished child in South Vietnam; rioting in the U.S.; Vietnamese girl consoles wounded sister; hunger in Pakistan. Below, left to right: hundreds of half-burned, emaciated bodies await burial at Landsberg horror camp; grieving father carries coffin of 18-month-old daughter accidentally killed by guerrilla warfare in Northern Ireland; innocent victims of the Nigerian-Biafran civil war.

Man's Inhumanity to Man!
Good evening ladies and gentlemen: Welcome to the fight of the century," barks the announcer.

"The most important bout in the annals of your personal history is about to begin. Presenting — in the near corner, dressed in a red cape and weighing in at 500 lbs. [approximate weight of a 'roaring lion'] the Heavyweight Champion of this world — Satan the devil, alias 'Adversary.' In the far corner, dressed in deceitful gray, the Light Heavyweight Champion of this world — Mr. Human Nature, alias 'Old Side-kick.' And in the third corner [remember there are four corners to any boxing ring] wearing colorful eye-catching, glittering clothing, the Middleweight Champion of this world — Mr. Worldliness, alias 'Old POW' [pulls of the world].

"Tonight they are fighting the undisciplined, untrained, out-of-shape [spiritually speaking] Flyweight Champion of perhaps you've never thought of it this way before, but YOU are in a title bout, fighting THREE ruthless opponents at one time! Read this article to find out HOW you are doing.

by Hugh E. Wilson

his block — Mr. or Mrs. John Q. Average-Christian, alias 'Push-over' or sometimes known as 'Old Easy Prey' by their opponents.

A Different Kind of Fight

Farfetched? Nonsensical? Not at all! Brethren, each of you IS in a battle, pitted against three tough, sly and clever opponents who are literally after your spiritual life! Your relentless foes are three seasoned pros. Numerous victory cups adorn their trophy rooms. Many spiritual wins are posted in their record book — the book of death! They never plan to retire while you're alive.

Are you in serious all-out spiritual training, preparing to struggle and fight these three formidable opponents? Are you striving to win? Or have you already been losing out, not fully realizing what is going on?

Your spiritual battle is different from most bouts. In any average fight the contestants know weeks and months in advance the exact day of their bout. Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier knew their "D date" and were primed and ready. The long awaited day of their famous fight came as no surprise.

However, your struggle began before you were fully aware of it. The bell which signified the start of the bout rang loud and clear the day you were baptized. Did you hear it?

You're in a "Title Bout" where there are no time-outs, no quitting, no rescheduling for a "more convenient time." In the eyes of your enemies you
are the underdog. And remember, losers in this fight get nothing!

Strange Rules

Your ruthless opponents fight a tough, dirty fight. They jump you repeatedly anytime, anyplace, whenever they feel like it. Satan controls and influences Mr. Worldliness and stirs up Mr. Human Nature. The “fearsome three” work hand-in-glove with each other, using gang tactics, three-against-one odds, combination punching, or perhaps one on one—depending upon the circumstances.

The brutal bullies’ specialty is to buffet you about when you least expect it, when your spiritual guard is down and your mind preoccupied with the material things of this life.

Needless to say, your enemies do not fight according to standard or orthodox boxing rules. These battle-wise veterans make their own rules to suit their own particular personal style.

The “ugly three” will attack you in the ring, out of the ring, in the alley, or better yet when your back is turned. They will attempt to bloody your nose by causing you to sin, or knock the “wind” out of you, spiritually speaking.

Once you have been softened up and worked over by your nature (“Old Sidekick”) and the pulls of this world (“Old POW”), Satan wants to give you a “knock-out punch.” He wants to leave you spiritually mangled and broken.

Analyzed by Your Opponents

Floyd Patterson had a “glass jaw.” What’s your biggest weakness? Soft flatulent stomach—in other words just plain lethargy? Perhaps it’s one or two rolls of spiritual midriff fat—problems that stick with you that you cannot seem to shed. Feeble constitution? Moodiness? Depression? Lack of self-control? Or a thick groggy head with no mind control? Do you just get frustrated and give in and let your body rule your mind instead of your mind ruling your body with self-disciplined character?

How is your previous fight record? Have you won some of your fights, or have you lost them all? Is your best a draw, or have you been awarded several decisions?

Whatever your record, realize the “fearsome three” know your every weakness—and where each punch will do you the most spiritual damage.

But You Can Win!

Wherever you live, work, and play—that is the “ring.” But though sadly outnumbered, you do have every chance to win.

The arena is jam-packed with spectators. Your limited ears and other senses cannot pick up the sound of their rooting and fanfare. But God’s righteous angels are all there, concerned and pulling for you.

The referee is God the Father. Jesus Christ is your spiritual coach, trainer and teacher. Both dearly desire that you be the victor in this all-out, no-holds-barred fight—but neither can do all your fighting for you. You have your own part to do.

You have the best coach and trainer possible. Do you pay close attention to Him? Do you study diligently the coaching manual—the Bible? If you do, your Savior “is able to keep you from falling” (Jude 24).

All three of your seasoned and rugged foes fight dirty. Each should be considered extremely dangerous. You can defeat them only if you are in shape, train properly, and listen to your coach.

KNOW Your Enemies

Let’s analyze some of the tactics your foes use against you.

Vicious and clever, Satan the “adversary” has a blacklist of your weaknesses. So the tempter will aim to “set you up” by putting trying circumstances before you; then enemies two and three can do their dirty, below-the-belt work.

Satan is notorious for “behind-the-scenes work” carried out in unseen ways. He specializes in beating on your head by triggering wrong thoughts.

Satan likes to divert your mind and attention from God’s Kingdom, giving doubt and discouragement an opportunity to enter. He knows your human nature and its desires—he understands your thoughts and actions. Block his attacks and never give him any room. Never “give place to the devil” (Eph. 4:27). How? Don’t let discouragement or evil thoughts take root in your mind. Push them out before they get a start!

Satan also delights in delivering knock-out blows when you are down—discouraged—when you feel like giving up and “throwing in the towel.” So always be on guard against him!

“Old Sidekick” is also very deceitful and sneaky! He uses “psychology” frequently (rationalization appeals to fleshly desires and emotions), so beware. He’ll persuade you that you never had a better “friend.” Steer clear of his fancy footwork—excuses, justifications, white lies. He’s been with you a lifetime. He knows exactly when and where to strike, and when to retreat and hide.

Even though Mr. Sidekick has been near you all your life, he is really hard to get to know. He is deceitful, crafty, and extremely selfish (Jer. 17:9). He HATES authority, especially that of God (Rom. 8:7). But due to familiarity, you are apt to leave your guard down around him and relax. You just can’t imagine a close “friend” like that would want to hurt you.

The FBI has a list of its “ten most wanted criminals,” but your personal Public Enemy Number One is your own human nature! You are literally your own worst enemy! Think about that.

Are you always on guard against your human nature? Or are you a sitting duck for its feints, jabs, left hooks and right crosses? Does it always have you reeling on the ropes?

“Old POW” (pulls of the world) is no pushover either. He becomes stronger the longer you look at him. His glamorous allure is like a constantly pulling magnet. Look out for his strong pulling personality. He has hustled many a sucker!

Mr. POW’s favorite tactic is distracting your mind by colorful and attractive objects (sin looks good). He tries to get your attention by bright lights, arouse your curiosity, and then your nature jumps in to soften you up even more. Soon the strong fist of Satan will come crashing in on an unprotected body or head!

Beware of POW’s street fighting techniques. He usually attempts to pull his opponents down into the gutter—the muck and mire of the world (sex sins, bars, topless go-go houses, etc.). He also realizes whether your reaction time and reflexes against sin have slowed.
Get in Spiritual Shape

To begin with, you must set your will to discipline yourself and be willing to admit the sad shape in which you probably find yourself. Realize it's natural to be soft on ourselves and to shun a discipline yourself and be willing toably find yourself. Realize it's natural to "work out" in your local training camp. Begin immediately and diligently to "work out" in your local training camp. How do you do this? Attend weekly Sabbath services and Bible studies regularly. Listen attentively to your instructors — God's ministers. "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls [guard your lives]..." (Heb. 13:17).

Pay particular attention to your experienced coach, Jesus Christ, who has already fought these "three thugs" and won! (Heb. 2:18). Read daily His Instruction Book, your personal training manual — the Bible!

Your battle is also a race, as the Apostle Paul's was (1 Cor. 9:24-26).

"Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run that ye may obtain... I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air."

Do some body work, some heavy training. Paul also wrote: "I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway" (verse 27). So strengthen your legs by doing deep knee bends in fervent prayer!

Initiate frequent push-ups. Push up and away from the table of physical food, and feast instead at the table of spiritual production and growth, which is private, daily Bible study; for "every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate" (verse 25). And push yourself up from your night's sleep and get going every day! This is what will soon develop solid spiritual muscle.

Another key to success is sparring partners — fellowship with brethren who are going through the same spiritual fight. Have good friendly, uplifting, stimulating conversations. Edify one another! Don't gossip or gravitate to someone who has the same general weaknesses you do, but rather those who will "provoke you to better works." Solomon said: "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend" (Prov. 27:17). He also declared: "He that walketh with wise men shall be wise: but a companion of fools shall be destroyed" (Prov. 13:20).

The Spiritual Art of Self-Defense

Never underestimate, kid, joke with, or give an inch to your opponents. Too many of us seem to FORGET we are in a fight. Since we can't "see" our enemies, we take them for granted and become complacent. Don't give them any advantages. "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices" (I Cor. 2:11). Remember, Old Sidekick loves to "cling and clench" to you. Beseech God to aid in breaking his embrace. Ask God for power via the Holy Spirit to see clearly your Public Enemy Number One. Let his soothing words fall on deaf ears (Prov. 14:12). Realize his words are all propaganda!

And what about Mr. "Pulls of the World"? The corrupting influences of the world will tug and lure you back into entanglement if you are not careful. Keep your distance. "Old POW" lurks in secret places to ambush inquisitive, naïve people who are not content with what they have. Accept the
fact that the grass is not greener on the other side of the fence. The glitter and glamour of this present evil world are only a skin-deep facade containing rottenness and corruption within.

Don't listen to “Old POW” or swallow his “line.”

But there is one more thing you must have in order to assure final victory!

**Spiritual Resources**

This sin-laden society, your deceitful nature, and the invisible devil are absolutely real. But they can all be overcome through the power of God’s Spirit! With God’s help you can outsmart, outguess and outmaneuver your opponents. God’s Spirit within you can enable you to give a “knock-out blow” to all three of your deadly adversaries!

Notice Philippians 2:12-13: “Be keener than ever to work out the salvation that God has given you with a proper sense of awe and responsibility — for it is God who is at work within you, giving you the will and the power to achieve His purpose” (Philips Translation).

Jesus Christ successfully resisted Satan (Matt. 4:1, 10). He mastered himself (Heb. 5:7-9). He told His disciples, “Be of good cheer; for I have overcome the world” (Phil. 4:13). He exhorted, “Be angry at sin, not only for what it is, and has, and will do to the world. Yes, be angry at sin — God hates it. Is He indifferent? Ask God to give you His attitude toward sin!”

5. Cling to the Truth. Jesus said: “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate and broad is the way [the false ways of the world] which leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate and narrow is the way [of truth] which leadeth unto life and few there be that find it” (Matt. 7:13-14). “Strive to enter in at the strait gate,” Christ said in Luke 13:24.

Now that God has given you the truth, cling to it tenaciously! “... cleave to that which is good” (Rom. 12:9). Develop a “love of the truth,” as Paul exhorted, so you will never be “hardened by the deceitfulness of sin” (II Thes. 2:10; Heb. 3:13).

6. Pray Daily for Christ’s Return. You have the solution for the world’s ills. You have been set free from spiritual ignorance which is destroying the world (Hos. 4:6). If you pray daily for Christ’s return as a result of feeling deeply for man’s deprivation, you cannot remain indifferent!

So pray earnestly for the soon establishment of God’s Kingdom when the knowledge of God will fill the earth (Isa. 11:9), knowing that God’s truth will then set the world free (John 8:32).

7. Do Your Part in God’s Work. The world is floundering in a morass of lackadaisical concern. It is gorged with excess, satiated with materialistic pleasures. The world has no driving goal. YOU HAVE!

For YOU have been called to have a part in saving this world’s inhabitants from “total destruction”! (Mal. 4:6; see original Hebrew.)

Is your heart really in God’s work?

Ask God to help you “catch the vision.” Ask Him to help you fulfill your role in the most important work on the face of the earth today!

**INDIFFERENCE**

(Continued from page 11)

despite trial and tribulation. His is a life of real faith. And what a life! His physical needs are provided and he doesn’t even need to worry about death. Every blessing and joy imaginably, through obedience, comes to those who follow God’s way of life.

Be aware of the vast difference between God’s way and the world’s way.

3. Be Deeply Thankful. Give God daily the thanks He deserves for all that He has given you and the way He serves you, and deeply mean it. If you do, you will not be indifferent about God’s way of life. You will deeply appreciate it. You’ll appreciate God’s Church, His truth, and His plan for our salvation.

We need to be “giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ” because God “giveth us [all true Christians] richly all things to enjoy” (Eph. 5:20; I Tim. 6:17).

4. Abhor All Evil. The world is being deprived of abundant blessings because of evil — sin. God commands: “Abhor that which is evil...” (Rom. 12:9). Do you?

Don’t be content to live with your sins which deprive you and your family of deep happiness. Formulate a plan of attack and get stirred up about them. Be angry at sin, not only for what it will do to you, but what it is, and has, and will do to the world. Yes, be angry at sin — God hates it. Is He indifferent? Ask God to give you His attitude toward sin!

5. Cling to the Truth. Jesus said: “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate and broad is the way [the false ways of the world] that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate and narrow is the way [of truth] which leadeth unto life and few there be that find it” (Matt. 7:13-14). “Strive to enter in at the strait gate,” Christ said in Luke 13:24.

Now that God has given you the truth, cling to it tenaciously! “... cleave to that which is good” (Rom. 12:9).
FOREIGN WORK
(Continued from page 6)

been the United States. Yet, like Jerusalem, we are limited in what we can do directly from Pasadena and have relied on some of the foreign Church areas to help open new areas to get moving. Bases of operation have been established overseas. Without them we would find much of our work either impossible or extremely difficult and expensive.

For example, the Foreign Work in 1953 went back into England for the second time when The Work Tomorrow broadcast was heard for the first time over Radio Luxembourg throughout the British Isles. Since then the British Work has grown. Now there is a complete college campus with a large mailing office and complete press facilities for servicing the work going out over one third of the world's land mass. Literature printed in the British Isles is read all the way from Barbados to Calcutta and from Helsinki to Cape Town.

While much of the money to support this operation in England comes from the United States, British members and Co-Workers now defray over $100,000 a month of these expenses through tithes and offerings.

For over ten years now, the British campus has been producing office managers, clerical workers, mail readers, letter answerers, ministerial assistants, and pastors of churches to staff most of the Foreign Work. Today if we withdrew all of the Bricket Wood graduates from the Foreign Work, it would grind to a halt. Not only that, but the Work in the United States would feel the pinch.

Yet during all this time, the doors that have been open in Britain itself have been small and sharply restricted and the work done there has been limited. In spite of that, the Work has grown steadily and God has given us the freedom to establish a base of operations without which the Work in one third of the world would be much more difficult, if not impossible.

Likewise, Australia now provides the base of operations for all the Pacific and Asian areas. Magazines and literature printed in Australia are read all the way from Rangoon to Tahiti and from Japan to New Zealand.

In its turn, New Zealand has picked up the responsibility and provides the manpower and a large portion of the expenses for handling the mail to all Asia.

All of us, especially after reading this article, should indeed become more “foreign” minded. Whether you're a member in the Philippines, Rhodesia, Hong Kong, one of the Pacific Islands, or Fort Smith, Arkansas, the commission to all of us is: "Go ye therefore into all the world." It's not enough merely to support your own local church and to provide the resources for expanding in radio and television in your own country. You've got to think in terms of the whole world before you can really be a participant in Christ's commission to His Church.

The more we all pull together and the more dedicated we become in prayer and sacrifice for EVERY PART of God's Work, the closer we come to the fulfillment of Christ's words: "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world; for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14).

Here we see God granting special help through the Holy Spirit to enable skilled craftsmen to fashion glorious and beautiful garments for the priesthood. A purely physical function, yet God gave them special help!

Again in Exodus 31:14 we find another account of how God gave a certain Jew named Bezalel His Holy Spirit to enable him to do physical workmanship involving the use of gold, silver, and wood. This was a physical service, but God's Holy Spirit was granted to enable him to perform it.

This illustrates a basic principle. Whether the people doing the Work of God are ministers or not, they must do it by God's Holy Spirit! “Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord" (Zech. 4:6).

If it is the Work of God then it is clearly evident that it must be done by HIS SPIRIT. Therefore, those non-ministerial persons, in the Work need your prayers also! Ask God to grant them more of His Spirit and to guide them in the performance of their functions—all of which are necessary, all of which are vital to the success of God's ever-expanding Work.

Ask God, also, to move our Co-Workers to grow in understanding and to really put their hearts in God's Work. Ask Him to open the minds and hearts of many of those who read our literature and hear the broadcasts or watch the television program.

And finally, brethren, ask God to grant His ministers and His Work favor in the eyes of world leaders so we can finish God's Work with increasing effectiveness and dynamic impact!

It has been said, and it is certainly true, that you are converted to the degree that your heart is in the Work of God. Never before have you heartfelt prayers for God's Work been more needed than now in this ever-accelerating "home stretch" of God's end-time Work!

PRAY FOR THE WORK
(Continued from page 9)

time, criticism and the scrutinizing eyes of very carnal, yet intelligent and learned people?

In ancient Israel, God gave His Spirit to men who were employed in construction projects. They were craftsmen, skilled carpenters, and laborers in other professions. Their function was not basically spiritual in nature. It was physical. Yet they were doing the WORK OF GOD! And because they were, God granted them His Spirit to enable them to better perform purely physical functions. Notice in Exodus 28:2-3: "... Thou shalt make holy garments for Aaron thy brother for glory and for beauty. And thou shalt speak unto all that are wise hearted, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron's garments..."