

*The Church of God*

*Great Lakes Mountaineer Region*



*Ohio*



*West Virginia*



*Michigan*

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## **Great Lakes Mountaineer Regional News**

*Happy Mother's Day*



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In  
Michigan—Ohio—West Virginia**

**James T. Smith  
Regional Overseer**

**[www.tcog-glmr.org](http://www.tcog-glmr.org)**

# A Minute from the Minutes

## *Excerpts from a demonstration by the Memphis, Tennessee V.L.B.'s during the 57<sup>th</sup> Assembly in 1962*

The twenty-third teaching of the Church of God: Against the use of tobacco, opium, morphine, etc. The use of tobacco in any form is forbidden as well as the habitual use of narcotics. These sinful practices defile the body, the temple of the Holy Ghost, and are outward evidences of an impure heart.

Smoking is injurious to health. Each cigarette contains at least twenty different toxic poisons. Among these are arsenic, carbon monoxide, cyanide, and the most famous killer of all, nicotine. One drop of nicotine placed on the tongue of a dog killed the dog in less than one minute. Eight drops killed a horse.

A Russian scientist said, "Nicotine is too potential as a poison to be taken into the human system, and when taken persistently, even in small quantities, it gradually impairs the nervous system, weakens the heart and robs the body of its normal strength and vitality." Another noted scientist, George Washington Carver, said, "Tobacco is neither food nor drink, and man becomes a part of that which he takes in."

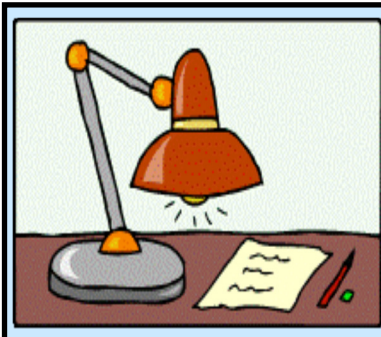
One of the most noticeable effects of smoking is in breathing. Smokers tend to have a shortness of breath, and for that reason, it is common practice among coaches of athletic teams to forbid the use of tobacco by the members of the team. Even moderate smoking increases the pulse rate from five to ten beats per minute and causes a rise in blood pressure.

Are tobacco advertisements truthful? You have never seen a distinguished man being carried feet first out of a bar. Neither have you seen advertised in any national magazine a man lying on his bed dying of cancer because he would not stop smoking. No, tobacco advertisements are not truthful. The purpose of tobacco advertising is to sell tobacco.

Before 1923 lung cancer was negligible among women. Why? Because women did not smoke. How did they begin? The advertisers first pictured a woman looking at the man enjoying his smoke. After a period of time they showed the woman holding the package; then we see the woman lighting the cigarette for the man; and now we see women smoking in all kinds of cigarette advertising.

"Since cigarettes seem less provoking unto the ones who do the smoking; oh, won't some power please compel them to smell themselves as others smell them!"

**[Editor's note:** Thank God in our day tobacco advertisements on TV are illegal in the U.S. Would to God the same was true of liquor advertising as well.]



## From the desk of the Regional Overseer *James T. Smith*



# The Lord On His Throne

*(1) In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. (2) Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. (3) And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. (4) And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. (5) Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts. (Isaiah 6:1-5)*

At the time of this vision, Isaiah had already received several wonderful prophecies, such as the *Mountain of the Lord's House*, and the *Great Day of the Lord* in Isaiah 2, *The Branch of the Lord Glorified* in Isaiah 4, and *Woe to the Wicked* in Isaiah 5.

One could wonder why would Isaiah now has this vision of the Lord on His throne? According to David Guzik's *Enduring Word Commentary*, Isaiah was not alone in seeing God's throne. Almost everyone in the Bible who had a vision of heaven, was taken to heaven, or wrote about heaven spoke of God's throne. The prophet Micaiah saw God's throne (1 Kings 22:19), Job saw God's throne (Job 26:9), David saw God's throne (Psalms 9:4; 9:7; 11:4), the Sons of Korah saw God's throne (Psalms 45:6; 47:8), Ethan the Ezrahite saw God's throne (Psalms 89:14), Jeremiah saw God's throne (Lamentations 5:19), Ezekiel saw God's throne (Ezekiel 1:26; 10:1), Daniel saw God's throne (Daniel 7:9), and the Apostle John saw God's throne (Revelations 4:1-11). In fact, the book of Revelation may as well be called "the book of God's throne," because God's throne is specifically mentioned more than 35 times in that book!

The time that this vision occurred was associated with a special event—the passing away of Judah's King Uzziah. He began his reign when he was only 16 years old, and he reigned 52 years. Overall, he was a good king: 2 Kings 15:3 says, *...he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father Amaziah had done.* 2 Chronicles 26:5 says that *...he sought God in the days of Zechariah, who had understanding in the visions of God: and as*

*long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper.”*

Especially note the last part of this scripture: *“as long as he sought the LORD, God made him to prosper.”* And that was the crux of Uzziah’s problem. According to 2 Chronicles 26:16 *“But when he was strong, his heart was lifted up to his destruction: for he transgressed against the LORD his God, and went into the temple of the LORD to burn incense upon the altar of incense.”*

He had become so puffed up in himself that he presumed he could enter the temple to offer sacrifices that only the priests, the sons of Arron, were to make. This prideful act cost him dearly according to 2 Chronicles 26:21: *“And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death, and dwelt in a several house, being a leper; for he was cut off from the house of the LORD: and Jotham his son was over the king’s house, judging the people of the land.”*

This final judgement of Uzziah in his dying of his own sin-induced leprosy was fresh on Isaiah’s mind when this vision appeared to him of the Lord on His throne *“high and lifted up.”* How could Isaiah presume to enter into the very presence of the Lord? His response was one of absolute fear: *“Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.”*

In response to Isaiah’s humbling himself before God, the remedy for Isaiah’s predicament was immediate. According to Isaiah 6:6-7 *“Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: (7) And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.”*

After Isaiah had been purged and could stand in the presence of the Lord, the call of God went forth, and Isaiah immediately accepted the call. *“Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me”* (Isaiah 6:8).

Surely answering such a call from the Lord should carry with it a promise of great blessings and success in accepting this ministerial call? Such was not to be the case: *“And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not. (10) Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and convert, and be healed”* (Isaiah 6:9, 10).

The way forward for Isaiah would be a difficult one. He was sent to deliver prophecies to a people who would not hear, who would not heed, who would not turn again to the Lord. Especially in his latter years, Isaiah had to prophecy of and indeed witness the destruction that came upon the northern kingdom of Israel, and later upon Judah during the reign of the wicked king Manassas who so desecrated the temple with false altars to idols, etc. According to Hebrew tradition, Isaiah was sawn asunder in a log by an angry Manassas, which corresponds to Hebrews 11:37

Yet through all that he endured; Isaiah stood faithful to God's call. And the Lord blessed him with some of the greatest prophecies to be given a prophet regarding how the Lord in His time would win victoriously over all sin and inequity. It seems that the harder the trials Isaiah faced, the greater the prophecies that the Lord gave to him!

He must have many times questioned why it should be so? What Isaiah could hold on to through those moments was the memory of that experience of being in the presence of the Lord—a reminder that the momentary experiences we endure down here are nothing to be compared to our final destination.

We must never forget that what we see and endure daily as we serve the Lord is nothing in comparison to what we look forward to—when we will stand in His presence. As one song says "*It Will Be Worth It All*"—whatever we must go through down here on this earth as we stand faithful in our service to the Lord.

It will be worth it all  
when we see Jesus!  
Life's trials will seem so small  
when we see Christ.  
One glimpse of his dear face,  
all sorrow will erase.  
So, bravely run the race  
till we see Christ.

## Special Notice

We are entering a busy season with BTI, Heritage Day and our Regional Convention all taking place close together. For this reason we will combine the June and July issue of our regional paper into one issue. We will aim for this issue of the paper to be out right after our Regional Convention.

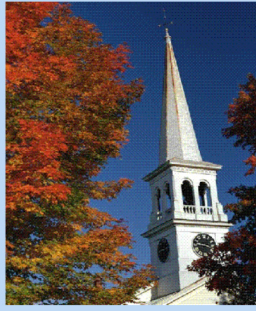
### Dates to Remember

**BTI**—May 27-June 9 in Cleveland, Tennessee

**Heritage Day**—June 1 in Fields of the Wood

**GLMR Regional Convention**—June 21-23 in Castalia, Ohio

Let us all pray that these events will be anointed with Holy Ghost power and that our region can be blessed of the Lord. Remember our Regional Overseer in prayer for the heavy load of responsibility upon him during this time span.



# Great Lakes Mountaineer Regional Church News

## **Castalia, Ohio News**

We had a wonderful Resurrection Day service. Sis Chelsea was in charge of the little ones and had them to each wear a set of bunny ears and they got up in the front of the church and sang some songs for us. They were all so precious. We also had a wonderful message from our Pastor that morning. Then after service was dismissed all the little ones ventured outside for an Easter egg hunt. It was fun watching them scrambling around trying to get as many eggs as they could, which wasn't a problem as there were tons of them. But most of all thank you, Lord, for your ultimate sacrifice. You paid a price you did not owe and for that we are eternally grateful. Praise the Lord and Happy Resurrection Day to all!!!!

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## **Chillicothe, Ohio News**

Chillicothe Ohio is praising God for the new faces in our services. We were so blessed to be with our Brothers and Sisters in the Southern and Northern Convention. Our hearts were touched by the love and great fellowship we had among each other. As well as the good food that was provided. Most of all we were blessed by the precious Word of God that was brought forth by every boost and message.

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## **Page, WV News**

The Southern District Convention was held at our church on April 6. We were so blessed with such good food provided by Sister Glenna Nichols, Brother Bob Jarrell, and Brother Robin Bradford along with members from the Seth church. We were blessed by all who came and those who sang and for the Word that was shared with us. We had 31 in attendance including several young people.

We need your prayers for the work that lies ahead of us. Our Church needs so much work and strength to do it. We enjoyed being together with everyone and again pray for us and thanks to everyone.

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## **Southern District Revival Report**

Our new field tent revival in Beckley, WV went over very well. We had visitors almost every evening. A few nights were very cold and windy, but this did not hinder the Spirit of God from moving in our midst. Several expressed an interest in a Bible study which we will follow up on soon. One young couple with two small children showed a special interest and was present nearly every evening. The Shelton evangelistic team visited around 300 homes inviting people to the revival. Without this groundwork the revival would not have been as well received. The revival did not cost our region one cent in expenses for God moved on individuals to work and give to make this endeavor a success. The average nightly attendance was 19. Please pray for the Beckley area as we go forward in getting a foothold there for The Church of God.





**Kandy Saunders  
Regional Treasurer**



Kandy Rae Osborne, from Seth, WV, was born on 10/24/1964 to Hersey Taylor and Margie Darlene Osborne. My grandparents adopted me at age 9 and my name became Kandy Rae Sanner. I was married on December 8, 1979 to Rickey Saunders. We had three boys and now we have seven grandchildren.

I was first saved at 18 years old in a revival at the Church of God of Prophecy in Sylvester, WV where Sister Mary Foster was the Evangelist and Pastor. I was saved again at 30 and again at 42. Re-saved 11/5/2006—Re-sanctified 12/5/2006—Re-filled with the Holy Ghost: 2007—Re-newed covenant member: 5/5/2007—Lay Minister: 7/1/2008—Licensed Evangelist: 3/20/2010—BTI Graduate.

**Church Leadership:** All Local Auxiliaries, BTI State Coordinator, local Clerk and Treasurer, Assistant pastor, and am presently serving as regional treasurer.

I am thankful for the strong spiritual influence I had in my Grandfather, George Sanner. And, I thank God for His Son whose Blood saves and cleanses from all sin and for not giving up on me.

My favorite Scripture is: 1 John 3:2-3

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## **Seth, WV News**

We were privileged to have Brother Levi and Sister Jessa Stephens visit us April 7, following our district convention. They were a blessing with their ministry and fellowship. The church prepared a nice dinner following the morning service and we visited while the children played on the creek bank during the afternoon, awaiting the evening service.

Our people supported the revival in Beckley with their attendance along with our monthly nursing home service. Sister Kandy Saunders preached our Easter morning message on the subject "The Bread of Life" which was a blessing to our church as well as in the nursing home service the day before. Please remember the Seth Church in your prayers.

## **BTI BOOST:**

*Don Bolyard, Regional BTI Coordinator*

By the time you read this it will probably be just a few days before the students will be sitting in the class rooms, ready to learn about God's Word. I want to ask everyone to pray for the Instructors, the students, and everyone involved in this school. Proverbs 16:16 states: *"How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!"*

Both of these statements in this scripture end with an exclamation mark instead of a question mark. An exclamation mark is used to show surprise or strong emotion. We all know that we need our finances to get through this life, but we need God's wisdom and understanding even more to get us into eternal life.

*"The highway of the upright is to depart from evil: he that keepeth his way preserveth his soul" (Prov. 16:17).*

I hope no one wants to be surprised to find themselves in hell at the end of their life where there will be strong emotions of weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. We know that there will also be strong emotions in heaven, but it will be of great joy and celebration of worshiping God and enjoying the joys of eternal life with Jesus. That's worth far more than gold or silver. Praise the Lord!!! Pray for everyone to stay on the highway to heaven that we may preserve our souls for eternity.

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## **VLB BOOST:**

*Jessa Stephens—Regional VLB Coordinator*

We all know in the account of Gideon's army in Judges 7 that there was a sifting process that occurred. Gideon started with 32,000 men that "were with him". 22,000 men then left voluntarily out of fear. No doubt that brought some discouragement to Gideon. That left only 10,000 men! Then the Lord wanted those remaining men to be "tried" at the water. It would be with those faithful few (just 300) he would use, and win the battle against the enemy. The other men, were asked to leave.

To be tried, in the biblical sense, means to be examined or tested. Needless to say, there was something the Lord saw in those men's hearts that did not pass the test.

Jeremiah 17:10. *"I The Lord search the heart, I try the reins even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings."*

Psalms 11:4. *"The Lord is in his holy temple, the Lord's throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men."*

*"For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong on behalf of them, whose heart is perfect towards him." (2 Chron. 16:9).* One can't help but ask themselves, "Will I be one that is asked to leave, or a part of the still standing 300, that sent the enemy on the run?! " Amen!



# Photos From The Past



This is the first headquarters office building and publishing house for The Church of God. This building also served as facilities for the Church's first Bible School. It was began in 1915 and completed in 1919. It was located just across the street from A. J. Tomlinson's home. The address was 2524 Gaut Street.

## **WMB BOOST:**

### **Win The Lost At Any Cost**

*"I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." (John 9:4).*

**Souls are crying, men are dying,**

**Won't you lead them to the cross?**

**Go and FIND them, help to win them,**

**Win the lost at any cost.**

**Go out and win, RESCUE from sin,**

**Day's almost done, low sinks the sun.**

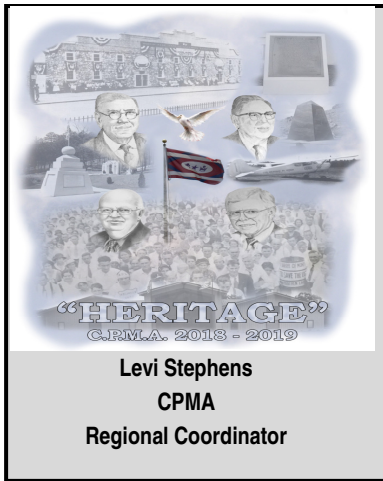
**Souls are crying, men are dying,**

**Win the lost at any cost.**

We know that the harvest truly is plenteous and the labourers are few. Let us pray to the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest.

God bless your labour for Christ and His Church!

—WMB Regional Coordinator, Sue Hutton



## “Will you keep it The Church of God?”

"I came back down the mountain and entered the meeting. Questions were asked, Bible answers were given. They said they took the whole Bible rightly divided as their only rule of faith and practice. I said, Well if you take the whole Bible rightly divided, that makes it The Church of God. Why do you want to call it the Holiness Church at Camp Creek? They agreed with me but couldn't answer my question. Then I said, You have agreed that this that I

have said makes it The Church of God, and will you be willing to take it and keep it The Church of God? They said they were willing. I then asked if they were willing to take me in with the understanding that it IS The Church of God- not going to be, but IS The Church of God? They were willing. So I stood right there in front of the fireplace and Brother Spurling, who has gone to heaven, took the Bible and gave it to me. He handed it to me and said, Will you take this as the Word of God, believe it and practice it, obey its precepts and walk in the light as God is in the light? I thought deeply. I remembered what a time I had on the mountain. I meant business. God meant business..... Right there I gave my hand to Brother Spurling..... I took the obligation with deep sincerity and extreme sacredness never to be forgotten." (Upon This Rock, Vol. One, pg 314, 315)

Please read the book of Jude. Jude says (V.3) *"it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints "*

Jude then goes on to give a history to some of the times that the people of God had willingly been deceived and deceived others. Basically, they refused to recognize their own backsliding, still claiming a faith in God. Revelation chapters 2, 3, and 18 shows more examples; the 2nd and 3rd chapters highlighting these conditions in the The Church of God. Oh my! Verses 20-25 of Jude exhorts us to keep ourselves!

Certainly Satan is trying to attack The Church of God so all She is left with is *"a name that thou livest, and art dead"* (Rev 3:1). But how does he try to accomplish his plan? He tries to water the doctrine down, persecutions, leaving our first love, allowing false doctrines to be taught in the Church, bringing in false leaders, make members feel like they have a name and are rich in the Lord when in fact they are lukewarm or cold spiritually. Despising government in our spiritual life through the Church, running greedily into errors, not yielding to a real sanctification, and even a sensual power instead of real Holy Ghost power! We can see all these things brought out in the referenced scriptures.

Church we must keep our experience real and true to the Bible! We must also exhort to others to do the same *"...lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it"* (Heb 4:1).

Will you keep it The Church of God?

The March World Missions offering for our region was **\$1,000.63**



## My Mother Kept A Garden

My Mother kept a garden,  
 A garden of the heart.  
 She planted all the good things  
 That gave my life its start.  
 She turned me to the sunshine  
 And encouraged me to dream.  
 Fostering and nurturing  
 The seeds of self-esteem.  
 And when the winds and rain came,  
 She protected me enough.  
 But not too much because she knew  
 I'd need to stand up strong and tough.  
 Her constant good example  
 Always taught me right from wrong.  
 Markers for my pathway  
 That will last a lifetime long.  
 I am my Mother's garden.  
 I am her legacy.



### GLMR Birthday Calendar

**HAPPY  
 BIRTHDAY**

May 8—Jenny Lonz—Castalia, Ohio  
 May 14—Susie Lofton—Seth, WV

*Please submit your June birthdays no later than May 20th.  
 Thanks!*



**Sunday School Average  
 Attendance  
 For Month of March, 2019**  
 Niles, MI—10  
 Castalia, OH—8  
 Columbus, OH—9  
 Fairmont, WV—12  
 Page, WV—9  
 Seth, WV—10

# An Inspirational Mini Sermon

From the Book **MUSE WITH ME** by R. O. Covey

## *The Value of a Good Name*

“A good name is rather to be chosen than riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold” (Prov. 22:1).

While men need not bow to the *vainglory* of doing good just to have their name spread on the pages of numerous periodicals, or flashed before the public in blazing lights, it is still better to have a good name simply because such a name helps to glorify the Saviour for whom we are ambassadors.

It is not particularly desirable to strive for a good name; but it is desirable *to be such a man* that the good name will automatically follow. After all, no matter how good the name, *the merit belongs to the Christ* who once took our place.

“*Loving favour*” probably means to be well-loved; to be esteemed and respected by all good men. This, again, need not be our goal. Our goal should be *to live so in the affections of our Lord* that the “*loving favour*” of men of God would be the natural result.

If men fail to give us a good name, or if they so overlook the godly life that the loving favor never comes our way, so what? God keeps the record. All else matters but little, Praise God!

If bitterness has crept into the heart in the friction of the busy day's unguarded moments, be sure it steals away with the setting sun. Twilight is God's interval for peace-making.

As a member of the Church you need to keep yourself so close to God and so stirred up by good living that you can feel the power surging through your body very often. Don't allow yourself to get dry and careless, but keep the fire burning hotter and hotter. If you feel the dry spirit nagging at you, then is the time to pray harder and longer. You can always defeat the devil by prayer and obedience to the Holy Spirit.

—A. J. Tomlinson, *WWM*, Jan. 15, 1927

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL, BOOST:**

### **PERFECTLY JOINED TOGETHER**

What a privilege to come together to study God's Holy Word! Every local body teaching the same lessons on the same day throughout the entire Body of Christ! 1 Corinthians 1:10 *"Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment."* The goal of the Church is to take the whole message of the Gospel to the whole world. We have only one message—the entire Bible. We must all speak the same message. God is not the author of confusion. The devil is. We serve a perfect God with a perfect message! There should be NO division among us. We should be perfectly joined together and have the mind of Christ.

Our Theme this year is **"Embrace the Vision"**. Found in Proverbs 29:18 *"Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."* Do you have a vision of Christ and His Church? If we have a vision, and keep His Word like we promised, we will be a happy person. We will work for the Lord and His Church. 1 Corinthians 15:58 *"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."* Everything we do for the Lord is not in vain. It will be fruitful. God will use your labor to grow the Kingdom of God and His Church for His glory. We should have a great desire to learn more and more about the Lord. Where would be a better place to learn than Sunday School? Psalm 86:11-13 *"Teach me thy way, O Lord; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name. I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore. For great is thy mercy toward me: and thou hast delivered my soul from the lowest hell."*

Brothers and Sisters, do you remember where you were headed before you heard the good news? Do you remember what it was like to be lost without a vision? Do you remember when you heard the truth and the Holy Ghost convicted your heart? Do you remember the day you surrendered it all to Jesus?

There's a world out there that has never heard the good news about Christ and His Church, lost and dying in their sin; just like you and I were. Pray for them. Live a holy life before them. Love them. Invite them to Sunday School and they will never be the same!!

Your Servant in Christ,

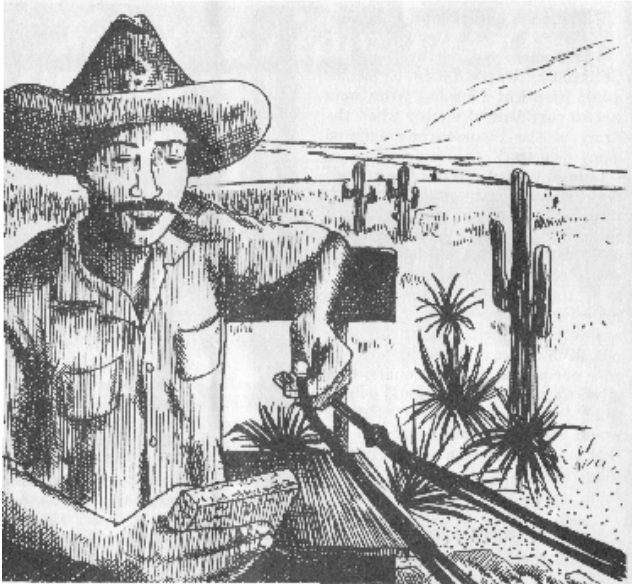
—Jenny Lonz, Regional Sunday School Coordinator

## **LADIES and GENTLEMEN**

A lady is a woman who makes it easy for a man to be a gentleman.

A gentleman is a man whose natural conduct makes an unladylike woman ashamed of herself.





# The Book That Cleans The Heart

—from the February 1979 *Happy Harvester*  
via a Pilgrim tract

Juana, the Postmistress, was in a bad humor. Perhaps there had been too many hot peppers in the tamales she had eaten for dinner. Perhaps Pedro, her husband, had taken more money out of the till than she meant him to. Beyond a doubt, she was very tired; for it is no small matter to do all the work of a household, a store and a post office, even in a drowsy South American village, where everybody stops work for several hours in the middle of the day to take a siesta. At all events Juana was very cross.

“It is not the letters,” she said to herself as she sorted the mail. “There are not so many of those and there are always the post cards to read, and that is very amusing. But these bundles and bundles of papers—!”

“Some of them, I am sure, are not fit for people to read. Now this one—!” She held up a copy of a religious paper as she spoke, and peered at it with hostile eyes. “And I must help to send them out to people!”

“Miserable trash!” she said, “No copy of this goes out through my post office. Who will know it if I tear them up? Half the people do not read them, and those who do would be better without!”

She tore the wrapper ruthlessly from the offending paper, and glanced down its columns. Something she saw there angered her afresh.

A new idea occurred to her, as she was about to tear the paper in pieces.

“They may as well be put to some use. Wrapping paper is scarce; this will do very well to wrap up small packages, if I tear the pages carefully apart.” A step sounded at the door, and a broad-brimmed, high-crowned hat stooped to pass the low lintel. Farmer Manuel Betancourt had driven from his farm, fifteen miles away, to make his weekly purchases at the village store.

“Good day, Manuel!” said the postmistress hastily removing the torn wrappers of the papers. “You have not driven through all this heat, have you? Your poor horses must be ready to drop.” All Juana’s ill-humor had departed with the fascinating task of tearing up the hated papers, and she was full of kind feelings toward everything, even Manuel’s vicious little ponies. The farmer grinned broadly.

“I was late in getting started,” he said. “Our little son had an earache last night, and I had to get up to dig onions to roast and put in his ears. So I overslept this morning, and did not get to town before noon. I rested the horses in the shade several times, and I do not think they have come to any harm.”

“Now where is that list Maria made me write down? I never do remember half the things she wants unless I make a list. Ah, here it is!”

Purchase after purchase was made and checked from the list. “That is all, I think,” said Manuel, and Juana wrapped the articles in a large sheet of heavy



paper torn from the roll on the standard. “Oh, no! here is one more thing on the other side of the paper,” he exclaimed, turning it over. “A cake of soap—you know the kind she likes, very sweet, like flowers.”

A highly-scented cake of toilet soap was taken from a box on the shelf. Juana looked at the big package and determined not to undo it. Reaching under the counter, she took a sheet of the torn paper and wrapped it about the cake of soap.

It was a long, tiresome drive home. Manuel had bought some papers in town, but the rising breeze of the late afternoon made it too difficult to hold the large sheets and drive his team. He gave it up, and as he laid down the folded paper he caught sight of the printing on the wrapper of the cake of soap lying beside him on the wagon seat.

“What is this?” he thought. “Perhaps I can read this small sheet to pass the time on the way.” There was a very interesting story on the piece of paper—fortunately it was all on the one sheet, and Manuel read it from beginning to end. It was all about a man who had been a thief and drunkard, and whose whole life was changed by reading a book called “La Biblia.” There were also some short anecdotes and a bit of poetry on the page. Manuel enjoyed them all and wished for more.

All the week he thought about the good reading and determined to have more of it. Manuel was a shrewd man, and seeing the name and date on the top of the sheet, decided that Juana had some reason for tearing up a paper of the current week, and that he should not ask questions.

That week he bought another cake of soap and got another page of the paper. This time one of the stories broke off right in the middle, and somehow that worried Manuel very much, considering how small a thing it was. He went in about the middle of that week and bought another cake of soap; left the store and came back, pretending he had forgotten he was to get two cakes, and secured another one, in a second wrapper.

“Dona Maria must be using a great deal of soap lately!” said Juana suspiciously. After Manuel was gone, she said to herself, “He wants the paper, not the soap!”

Next time Manuel came for a soap he got it in a plain wrapper. But by this time, he had read so much about the Bible that he decided to get one for himself. Also he had found out where to get the paper, and became a subscriber.

Juana never tried to hold back the papers from their readers any more; for something in Manuel’s glance when she gave him his copy each week told her that he suspected the trick she had played—and Manuel Betancourt was not a man to play tricks on!

“This Book,” said Manuel to his wife one day, “is a very wonderful one. Yet I might never have known about it if I had not found these pages of the paper wrapped around the soap.”

“Soap is to make you clean; but that was the best soap I ever bought, for it brought me to know about the Book that makes us clean in our souls. Now I think I will go down to the church in the town and tell the minister that I believe as he does, and want to come into his church. Shall I not do that, Maria?”

And Maria, who had done a little reading on her own account, said, Yes, Manuel, we will.”

*“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” (Heb. 4:12)*



## *A Brief History of Mother's Day*

In the 1850's a lady by the name of Ann Jarvis established what she called Mothers Fellowship Groups in frontier Virginia to teach women sanitation and other ways to better care for their families. These groups fizzled out as a result of the Civil War.

After the war was over another woman by the name of Julia Ward Howe started a movement she called a Mother's Day of Peace to advocate against any future wars. This fizzled out about ten years later.

Ann Jarvis' daughter Anna, was born on May 1, 1864. After her mother died she wanted to establish a special day for all mothers in honor of her own mother who felt that all mothers should have their special day.

Her vision caught on and the first Mother's Day was celebrated on May 10, 1908 at the Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia. This church building is now an international shrine to the beginning of Mother's Day.

In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating a national recognition of Mother's Day each year on the second Sunday of May.

Anna Jarvis' home is now a museum which can still be visited and is located in Webster, West Virginia.