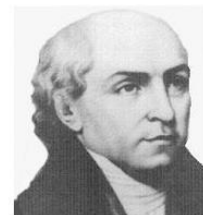
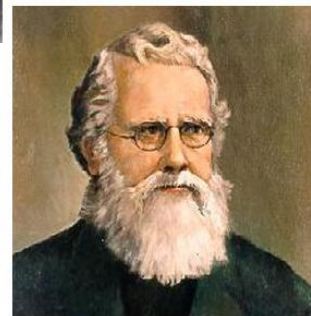
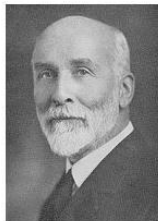
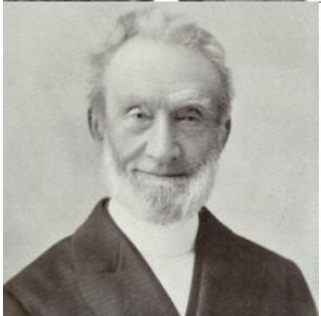
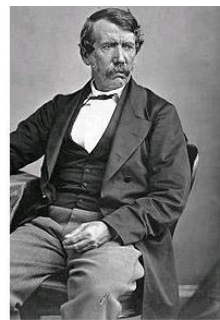


DEDICATED CHRISTIANS STILL SPEAK!



Check in this Book some of their impressions and opinions from Heaven. You'll love it, and it will inspire you! (Mat.17:13)

By Maria Fontaine

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Adam Clarke

Born: April 1762, Moybeg, Ireland.

Died: August 16, 1832, London, England.

Theologian and writer who was perhaps the greatest Methodist since John Wesley. Clarke was converted in 1779 while praying in a field. He became a circuit-riding preacher in Wiltshire in 1782 and soon was traveling all over England. He married Mary Cooke in 1788. Clarke served in such places as the Channel Islands, the Shetland Islands, and in London (around 1805 on). He was president of the Methodist Conference three times, and also printed an Arabic Bible. His eight-volume *Commentary on the Holy Bible* (London, 1812–26) was the result of 40 years of labor. Clarke died at age 70 of cholera or plague. When asked if he was trusting Christ as he was dying, he said, “I do! I do! With all of my heart. He never failed me, and He isn’t failing me now. He’s fulfilling His promise to me and taking me Home. Hallelujah!”

(*Adam:*) There was nothing that I would not do for the Lord. There was no place that I wouldn’t go for the Lord. The love of Jesus Christ constrained me and everything that I put my hand to, for He is the only thing worth living and dying for.

I had a great vision to make available an in-depth study of the Word of God, and that’s why I wrote my commentary on the Bible. I felt that everyone needed the opportunity to have a deeper understanding of God’s Word, and at times this was achieved by explaining Biblical text in the terminology of the day. I know how powerful the Word is and how important the Bible is in guiding our decisions. I wanted to offer people the opportunity for further insight into the

loving words of our Savior. I wanted people to be able to have a diversity of devotional reading in order to give them the spiritual strength for whatever times or situations they would face. I knew the written Word of God could provide every man and woman in our country with the moral guidance they needed.

Writing and research were only part of my work for God. The other part was that of doing my best to be a living example of the love of God. This I did through visiting my congregation, through prayer, through spiritual guidance, through helping the poor. I started preaching when I was 20 at the urging of John Wesley, and did not stop until I died. Many people were encouraged by a young preacher with the energy it took to maintain a circuit of several hundred miles. My mother was the one who ultimately deserves the most credit for my life's work, because it was her teaching that set my feet upon the right path.

Afrikaner

Born: Date of birth unknown, South Africa.

Died: Around 1820, South Africa.

Hottentot chief in Namaqualand, South Africa. He was the sensational convert of Robert Moffat, a missionary to his region. Afrikaner was a robber and an outlaw, bringing terror to native tribes and colonists. To everyone's surprise, 20-year-old Moffat gained his confidence and won him to complete Christian dedication in 1815. Unfortunately, Afrikaner died before he could work extensively with his new friend.

(Afrikaner:) My friends, the Lord can and will use anyone who comes to Him and yields their life and spirit to His will. I was a wholehearted person. Whatever

my hands found to do, I did it with all of my might. Unfortunately, in my early years I used this gift for evil. But God called me and I followed, and He was able to use me, albeit for a short time, to do much for Him.

Many people were angry with me for the bad things I had done when I was chief. They wanted my head. Moffat brought me Jesus and I became a better man. Others could see that I was better, that I was no longer trying to hurt others, so they stopped trying to kill me. They were happy when I came to their village with the words of Jesus. I traveled by foot with Moffat, far to the north, to tell people about Jesus.

(Jesus:) I used Afrikaner to show all those who knew him personally, or who had heard about him, that you can never be too bad for Me. Robert Moffat was also greatly encouraged through seeing the transformation of this man. Afrikaner's conversion was such a great strength and encouragement to Robert that, during his toughest moments and greatest tests, I would often remind him of the miracle that had come about in Afrikaner's life.

Afrikaner helped to motivate and inspire Robert to never lose faith that anyone could be won to Me. In many ways, Afrikaner lived out his life through Robert, and he shares in his rewards because of the way he was so instrumental in helping Robert to fulfill his mission.

In My eyes, the role Afrikaner played was a great one. When you inspire the heart of another to shine brightly for Me, you will share in their reward. Afrikaner had a role to play while he was on Earth, and he played that role well. He came to Me in such humility of spirit when he accepted Me and when he confessed how much he needed Me. Many were converted after hearing of his transformation; even many who had only heard briefly about him.

A. Mildred Cable

Born: February 21, 1878, Guildford, England.

Died: April 30, 1952, London/Dorset, England.

Author and pioneer missionary to China. In 1901, Mildred sailed to China and began a lifelong partnership with Evangeline and Francesca French. She first settled at Howchow in Shansi Province, and concentrated on education work with women. In 1913, with her two companions, she decided to travel to every city in Kansu Province situated beyond the Great Wall. They reached them all in eight months after 1,500 miles of travel, evangelizing as they went. No Western single woman had ever traveled this area. Several times they covered the northwest area from inner Mongolia to Tibet, and from Kansu Province to Sinkiang, headquartering in Suchow, the “City of Criminals.” In August 1936, all foreigners were ordered to leave the area. Following her retirement, Mildred visited Australia, New Zealand, India, and South America. Her several books tell of her travels and ministry.

(Mildred:) Eva, Franny and I were a trio of common women with an uncommon God, who loved our work, loved our God, and loved adventure. We went where others had not gone and were thrilled with all that the Lord did with us. We can be of special help to those who are in far-flung fields where there are few laborers. Not that we can't help in other places as well, but we do feel a special affinity for those who go where few others have the faith or the desire to venture. We loved the challenge and we loved to do what the more conservative of our colleagues said we shouldn't. In our work we saw exotic places few other Westerners had ever set eyes on. It certainly wasn't a comfortable life, but it was exciting. We learned languages such as Chinese and Uighur. We won converts

from the poor to the powerful. We raised eyebrows and were derided and admired for our crazy faith and our crazy religion. We lived a life full of adventure, which we wouldn't trade any part of for something else. We can inspire those who want it with the same passion and enthusiasm for the life of a missionary on the edges of civilization.

Anne Cutler

Born: 1759, Preston, England.

Died: 1794, Unknown.

Prayer warrior. Anne was used to bring revivals in the mining and weaving towns of northern England. Revivalist William Bramwell credits her intercessory prayers as a vital part of his endeavors. She was converted by him. She would pray from midnight to 4 or 5 a.m., making intercession for the religious society, the preachers, the church, and herself. Her last words were, "I am going to die. Glory be to God and the Lamb forever!"—And at 35, she was in Heaven.

(Anne:) Salvation was a dramatic event for me, being born anew of the living Spirit. William's preaching woke me up and I wanted to work with him in order to reach others, just as I had been reached. I determined to channel God's attention to William's ministry through prayer. By daily dying to myself through the sacrifice of private and public prayer, I helped to give His eternal life to many.

I was a shy woman, but I knew I had to overcome shyness if I wanted God to use me in any type of preaching work. I worked the loom as a weaver, and that's where I practiced speaking to people, praying for them, and eventually I found that I could speak and pray with His divine help.

The congregation didn't take too well to my lifestyle of prayer, of rising early, of eating little, basically devoting myself totally to Him. Ruffians would turn up constantly to taunt me and try to disrupt our prayer meetings. I would pray for them, and many of them eventually accepted Jesus.

I visited the sick and prayed for them, many of whom were either healed or comforted. Prayer did the work that no human could do in the lives of thousands. At times almost a hundred would come to Jesus in a prayer meeting, all glory to God! If you pray for others, God's hand works mightily in ways that only He can. No one is beyond help; everyone can be reached in God's time through prayer.

I did not feel smart or sharp or skilled. My life was as regular as a commoner's life could be. I told this to my Jesus, when I knew that He had called me and requested my service. His reply? "Anne, I do not need a smart, sharp, or skilled woman for the job at hand. There is a vacant plow on the field and I need someone with hands who can hold it, with feet who will walk with it, and with enough love in their heart to do this for Me." Then He asked me, "Have you got hands?" and I looked at my hands and without knowing the manner of service, replied, "Yes, that I do, and ten fingers to boot." "And do you have feet?" He inquired again. "Yes, I have feet with toes to match the number of my fingers." "And do you have enough love in your heart to take up this plow for Me?" Oh, at this I wept, for I loved my Jesus more than health or wealth or life itself. "Then, Anne," He replied, "you are just the woman I need." "But, my Lord, what plow is this that is vacant? What job is left unattended?" And as loudly as thunder, He replied, "The plow of prayer." Then I knew that the ministry of prayer was to be my cherished plow all the days of my life, and oh, how I rejoiced!—For this I could do, as simple and lowly as I was! I knew that I would do all within my power to make my Jesus proud that He had chosen me for the job. I determined to never let go of this plow.

Asahel Grant

Born: August 17, 1807, Marshall, New York.

Died: April 24, 1844, Mosul, Iraq.

Missionary (physician and explorer) to the Assyrian Church of the East in Persia beginning in 1835, at a place called Urmia with ABCFM (American Board Commissioners for Foreign Missions). Prior to his interest in missions, Grant practiced medicine in Utica, NY. He married Electa Loomis on August 23, 1827, and later in 1835 Judith Campbell (1814–39). His second wife and twin daughters died in 1839. Grant gained the confidence of the Persian officials, which allowed him to be able to do much for the Persian people. He spent the last ten years of his life ministering in Persia. After the massacres of 1843 when the Turks killed thousands of Assyrian Christians he settled in Mosul. Grant died at age 37 during an epidemic among the refugees.

(Asahel:) What allowed me to stay in Persia and to remain in good standing with the men and women I was trying to reach was that I had friends who supported me, although they may not have believed and lived as I did. In this day and age, you will need the support and strength of many. Although they may not agree with you on all things, you will need their talents, their skills, and their resources. In order to win the world, you must collaborate—that is a key principle. Because the Lord knows that you will need this kind of support and backing, He will be faithful to send such people across your path. So be open, and be prepared for His nudging of the spirit; these people will be a help to you and your work. Together, you will win many to Him.

Christ's words tested, tried, and yet comforted me. "He that forsaketh not all that he hath is not fit to be My disciple." I returned to the Lord, my wife, my

children, and my health, and even though these were great sacrifices, I knew that reaching the hearts of the Kurds and the people of this ancient Christian denomination was my calling.

The Assyrians, or the lost tribes, as I called them, didn't resemble Christians when I first began my ministry. They were swindlers, murderers, and generally unscrupulous, all of which they considered par for the course of life. There was a lot of work to be done, and I plodded along day by day and made slow inroads into these wrong mindsets. My spirit and mind were willing to meet the task, and I thank God for my medical education, which opened a way for me to befriend the governor and thus be accepted.

My friends wondered why I was so keen on ministering to the Persians, of all people, when I could have had a good congregation at home in New York. It was just something that I knew I was meant to do. There were days when every bone in my body ached from long horseback journeys, and when my stomach ached from eating the local foods, but oh, my heart was happy.

Barnabas Shaw

Born: April 12, 1788, Elioughton, England.

Died: June 21, 1857, Cape Town, South Africa.

Wesleyan missionary to South Africa who joined the Methodists and was employed as a local preacher. Shaw married Jane Butler in 1815. In 1816, he went to South Africa, where he preached without government approval. He was also opposed by the Anglican and Dutch Reformed Churches. Shaw then went 400 miles inland and established a thriving mission. This was in the present-day Langsberg Mountains, on the border of Namibia. Shaw taught the people for 21 years, returned to England for six years, and then returned to Africa for 14 more years of missionary service.

(Barnabas:) I found that as long as I had singleness of purpose and did my best to focus on my mission to preach the Gospel and to bring salvation to the heathen lands I walked in, I won the hearts of many. I was able to gain their respect with the earnestness of my intentions. I tried to keep all that I said and wrote as simple and to the point as I could in order to reach even those with the simplest of understanding. I believe this helped to bring about much beautiful fruit across all types and classes of people.

I experienced many perils in Africa, and each one gave me greater faith for the next. So many marvelous interventions of our Lord's mighty hand to miraculously change dire circumstances led me to acknowledge His providential care in a very personal way. He said, "Even the hairs of your head are all numbered." I was living proof of that.

My vision was to work among the slaves, those whom I felt needed me the most. I prepared for this by learning Dutch, which was their language. It took

years to build this work, because at first I was refused permission to work among the slaves for fear that it would offend the slave owners. I started my ministry with a tribe that I knew would face extinction if they did not modernize. My wife and I traveled by ox cart, and lived in a hut with boxes for furniture. I taught them agriculture, how to grow vegetables, make butter, soap, candles, etc. Eventually, the tribe was able to produce enough for trade. We also taught them about Christ, of course, which was my mission. Some went on to become local pastors and teachers, helping to spread the love of Christ. My work took me to other parts of Africa, and God's hand was upon my efforts.

Bartholomew Ziegenbalg

Born: June 14, 1683, Pulsnitz, Saxony (Germany).

Died: February 23, 1719, Tranquebar, India. First German Lutheran Pietist missionary to India.

A group of frightened children huddled around their mother's bed in a dark little room in Germany. Among them was a bewildered four-year-old boy about to become an orphan. As he listened, his sinking mother whispered, "My dear children, I have a great treasure for you." "What is it, Mother?" asked an older sister. The woman pointed to the Bible. "Seek it in the Bible; there you will find great treasure. I have watered every page with my tears." With that she died.

The family was broken up, and little Bartholomew Ziegenbalg went to live with sympathetic friends in Halle. He never forgot his mother's words, and at age 12, he claimed Christ as his Savior.

At 18 he graduated from the university in Halle with honors. Lutheranism in Germany had been rekindled by a revival known as Pietism*, and King Ferdinand of Denmark had been stirred. He appealed for missionaries for the Danish possession of Tranquebar on the southeastern coast of India. Ziegenbalg heard the call and presented himself. Scarcely anyone saw him off at the dock, and the trip to India was long—seven months, twenty days. He arrived in India on July 9, 1706, and was promptly imprisoned.

Ziegenbalg, however, had a motto: *Ora et labora*—pray and work! Even in prison, he labored at learning the Tamil language, and as soon as he gained his freedom, he began sharing Christ. Within a year he baptized five slaves in the first Protestant baptismal service ever held in India, and soon the first Protestant church for nationals in India was dedicated. By 1711 Ziegenbalg completed the

translation of the New Testament into Tamil, along with Luther's catechism, a Danish liturgy, and some German hymns.

His health failed after 13 years, and he died in Tranquebar in 1719 at age 35, leaving 350 converts to mourn his death and continue his work. If William Carey is the "Father of Modern Missions," perhaps Ziegenbalg should be called its Grandfather, for he served faithfully in India nearly a generation before the Moravian missionaries left Herrnhut and nearly 100 years before Carey.

*(Pietism: A German Protestant movement in the 17th and 18th centuries that changed the focus of Lutheranism from ritual and church government to personal piety [devotion]. It was founded by Philipp Jakob Spener.)

(Bartholomew:) When I stopped trying to impose my religion and culture on people and instead learned their customs, I was befriended. I didn't dwell on the negative, like the caste system, but emphasized the good qualities that their culture had to offer. I learned Tamil and translated the Scriptures. I changed my wardrobe for theirs.

One of the local men was eventually responsible for helping to build my first church, as well as financing the translation of the New Testament into Tamil. I initially met his slave, whom he was punishing for running away. When his slave told me why he was being punished, by being tied to a pole, in spite of my initial concerns about speaking to his master, I knew that I had to. His master welcomed my explanation that God has no favorites, but loves all mankind. He eventually freed his slave. Both men were converted and went on to convert others.

B. B. Crimm

Born: March 14, 1886, Beith, Texas.

Died: December 1, 1950, Marshall, Texas.

Widely known as the “Cowboy Evangelist.” Crimm was a star athlete at Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Texas. He preached in 25 states and brought over 140,000 into church membership. Of this number, 600 became ministers. During his first three years of Christian service, he pastored Baptist churches in Rowena, Valley View, and Eden (all in Texas). Crimm later acquired his own tent and equipment and became an evangelist. He died in an automobile accident after the car failed to make a curve on slippery asphalt. He had been holding a revival at Cuero and was making an overnight visit to his home.

(Jesus:) Crimm was an amazing fellow! He still is, but I’m referring to his life on Earth and the way he let Me use him. He let Me take his talents and turn them into something far-reaching and longer-lasting than mere popularity could bring. Many Christians feel that you have to go through Bible college in order to become pastors and evangelists who can then reach many, and Crimm helped many to choose that route. But even more chose to “go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature” because they were influenced by Crimm’s example. They hadn’t gone through seminary or Bible college, but they gave their lives for Me. Crimm’s example and witness have reached thousands upon thousands since, and it just keeps on going. Never underestimate how far your example will carry on, even when you don’t hear about it. Trust Me, you’ll hear about it eventually, and benefit from the rewards when you come here. Great will be your reward!

Benjamin F. Hitchcock

Born: August 10, 1886, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Died: June 18, 1960, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Founder and first director of Rural Bible Mission, Plainwell, Michigan (1935–55). At age 18, Hitchcock was converted at a Free Methodist church in Indianapolis. Self-taught, he pastored several small churches in Michigan. After discovering that most of the children in rural schools didn't attend church, he resigned his pastorate to work with children in the early 1930s and during the Great Depression. An accomplished chalk artist, he visited schools throughout Michigan, with Bible and drawing board in hand, to provide religious instruction and start Summer Bible schools. He made an all-out effort to provide spiritual help to young people. Finally, he had a heart attack, retired, and returned to Michigan where he died at the age of 74.

(Benjamin:) I've always had a special burden to reach children. If children are allowed to grow up without hearing about Jesus and the Gospel, then Christians have missed their best opportunity to get them saved and influence them for the better. Reaching adults seems to bear more fruit in the short term, as they're able to start helping in some way right away, or else the change in their life is more apparent; but reaching children is a long-term investment that will eventually pay great dividends.

Bernard Angel

Born: 1860, Bucharest, Romania.

Died: October 20, 1929, Unknown.

Evangelist to the Jews, who established a Hebrew-Christian mission in New York City. Angel spoke seven languages and could read in ten. He attended a rabbi school in Germany, went to Paris for a newspaper position, and then came to America. While he was in America, he heard the Gospel and was converted. Angel started his witness to the Jews in 1895. Communists often attended his mission (Leon Trotsky came once). His wife's name was Gertrude, and their daughter, Ruth, took over the work after Angel's death.

(Bernard:) I lived and worked during an interesting, pivotal time in history, during the rise of socialism and the birth of the communist movement. Changing times make for many hungry and searching people looking for the truth. New and formerly unknown influences in the world psyche challenge people to think, act, and react differently than they might have otherwise.

The world recession, Russia's reassertion of itself on the world stage, sectarian violence dotting the globe—it's a strange time you're living in, too, similar to the turmoil of my day—and like me in my time, you've come to the Kingdom for such a time as this. Use the time you have to your benefit. Leave your mark on society and the world now while you can. Invest the natural talents and abilities that the Lord has given you into building a "doorway" into the Kingdom for those who live around you.

I was gifted as a linguist and an editor. After my conversion I continued to use

my God-given abilities, now laced with the Lord's Spirit and the vision for reaching others, to speak to those who might not otherwise have opened themselves to His message for them. The Lord gives gifts—intellectual, physical, spiritual—to each person as He wills. It's up to you to discover how to use what He has given you for the betterment of others and the world around you.

Billy Bray

Born: June 1, 1794, Twelveheads, England.

Died: May 25, 1868, Twelveheads, England.

Flaming Methodist evangelist. Bray's early life was given to drinking and smoking. At age 29, he was converted while reading John Bunyan's works. Bray began his evangelism in his hometown in Cornwall, and soon was preaching to fellow miners, often being ill-clad, hungry, and sleeping outdoors. His enthusiasm was unparalleled. He would run, clap, and shout "Glory!" The countryside was soon aflame with revival. He died at age 74 in the same house in which he was born. He once said, "I work for a great company ... Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!"

(Jesus:) Billy's daily enthusiasm for Me was a witness to the miners and everyone that he encountered. No one disputed that a change for the better had come into his life. His praiseful spirit lifted others' spirits. His wholehearted joy in Me seemed odd to some; to others it was just what they needed to become joyous in Me. I used his joyful spirit to stir up hope in others that they too could have happiness and peace in Me, no matter what their circumstances. His out-of-

the-box public witnessing method of joyful singing and shouting praise became a shining beacon and testimony of My love and the fullness of life found in My Spirit. Yours can, too.

(Billy:) I never met a person without inquiring as to the condition of their soul. They say I had a shouting religion, because I was always shouting praise and testifying for Christ. I lift up one foot and it says, “Glory!” and I lift the other foot and it says, “Amen!” and so they keep on like that all the time I’m walking.

When my wife died, I praised God. “Bless the Lord! My dear Joey is gone up with the shining angels!” The goodness of God made me glad even in times of sorrow. On my deathbed I asked the doctor, “When I get up there, shall I tell them you will be coming too?”

If I were to go down to Hell I would shout, “Glory! Glory!” unto my blessed Jesus until I made the bottomless pit ring, and that miserable old Satan would say, “Billy, Billy, this is no place for thee; get thee back.” Then up to Heaven I would go, shouting, “Glory! Glory! Praise the Lord!”

Charles M. Alexander

Born: October 24, 1867, Meadow, Tennessee.

Died: October 13, 1920, Birmingham, England.

One of the best directors of evangelistic crusade singing. Alexander was converted at age 13 as a result of a revival meeting in 1881. His father's death in 1890 caused him to go into full-time service. In 1893, Alexander worked with D. L. Moody in revival meetings during the Chicago World's Fair. He was a song-leader, soloist, and personal worker for Milan Williams (1894–1901), R. A. Torrey (1902–06), and J. Wilbur Chapman (1908–18). His warmth, lively singing, joy, and soul-winning were a great help to those men. He helped Torrey in his round-the-world ministry. Piano accompaniment for his solos replaced the Sankey organ era. Alexander married Helen Cadbury, heiress to the Cadbury chocolate fortune, on July 14, 1904. At their wedding feast in Liverpool (England), 2,100 poor were fed and a 2,500-voice choir sang. Charles assisted her with the Pocket Testament League, which she had begun when only 13. He died of a heart attack 16 years later, in 1920.

(Jesus:) I love the fire and fervor that Charles brought into every aspect of his life and ministry. He boldly sang for Me and was a great help to the men and women with whom he served. Perhaps you're not the "preacher" but you're someone who helps to make the meetings or classes inspired, or maybe you're the one who helps to set up the venue. Regardless of what you do, whether it seems big or small in your eyes, it's big in My eyes! I bless and reward the one who teaches the classes, the drivers, the business people, as well as the outreach teams. Each one is important, whether facilitator or doer of the mission. Give

your all, big or small, and the world will be reached with My love.

Carl K. Becker

Born: January 31, 1894, Manheim, Pennsylvania.

Died: November 7, 1990, Myerstown, Pennsylvania.

His 1,100-acre leprosy village in Oicha, Belgian Congo (Zaire), was one of the wonders of 20th century missions. Becker was converted as a result of a catechism class in a German Reformed Church. He began practicing medicine in Boyertown, Pennsylvania, and married his wife, Marie Bodey, on September 26, 1922. Receiving an urgent call from the Africa Inland Mission, Becker sailed for Africa in 1928, leaving a \$10,000+ year job for an annual income of \$720, going to a primitive outpost he knew nothing about. He first located at Katwa, calling their home a “mud mansion.” Then they were briefly at Aba, and in 1934 went to Oicha in the dense Ituri forest to work among the Pygmies and other forest tribes—a most unlikely place for a mission hospital. Within two years, he was treating 200 patients every day. Weekends were devoted to evangelism. Lepers became his burden, and by the early 1950s he was treating 4,000 resident patients at his 1,100-acre “village.” He was also performing 3,000 operations and delivering 500 babies annually. In 1964, a rebellion by Simba guerrillas almost took his life, so he fled at age 70. He later returned, rebuilt the work, and finally returned to the U.S. at age 83 in 1977. He was considered as important a medical missionary as Albert Schweitzer, and considerably more evangelical. He was associated with the Evangelical Congregational Church. He died at the age of 96.

(Jesus:) Not all missionaries were ordained to live a long and full life, but Carl K. Becker was one of them. Like most missionaries, he lived a hard life—

spiritually, emotionally, and physically. He went without most of life's basic comforts, and certainly without a lot of its modern conveniences. He was exposed to all manner of sickness, and some of the worst kind, many of which he himself endured. But he never let that deter him from his mission. He considered those rigors par for the missionary course. He accepted his conditions, not with resignation, but with faith and praise, and this is what sustained him during his many years of service to Me.

Yes, it was faith and his praiseful disposition that sustained him through decades of rigorous living, till he finally retired from the field of battle at the ripe old age of 83. Even then, he continued to praise Me for My blessings till the end of his days.

My loves, it's amazing what praise will carry you through. Just like the verse, "the spirit of a man sustains him," it's all about attitude—that attitude of faith and praise which comes from My Word. It was Carl's attitude that made all the difference during those years in the Congo. So many times he could have used any number of excuses to give up, pack up shop, and go home, but instead he persevered in praise, thanksgiving, and faith. It was a vehicle, and look how far it took him. Adopt this same attitude of faith and praise, and watch where and how far it will take you.

Christian F. Schwartz

Born: October 26, 1726, in Sonnenburg (Stonsk), Prussia (Poland).

Died: February 13, 1798, in Tanjor (Thanjavur), India.

Lutheran missionary evangelist to India. Upon leaving the University of Halle, he went to South India in 1750 and served there for 48 years (without furlough) until his death at age 72. He never married. He won multiple converts, yet maintained esteem from both Muslim and Hindu leaders. Schwartz spent ten years in Tranquebar (1750–60), visited Ceylon (Sri Lanka, 1760) then spent 16 years at Trichinopoli (1762–78), before leaving the Danish mission and ministering on his own. He became an English chaplain in 1767. He went to Tanjore in 1778.

Note: The University of Halle in southern Germany was, at the time, considered to be one of the top universities in Europe. It was home to many of the sons of the elite and was a center for medical training, theology, and other sciences. It was known for promoting freedom of thought in academics, so would have been attractive to idealists who wanted to change the world. The university's beginnings were based in the University of Wittenberg, where Martin Luther and Melancthon were prominent scholars.

(Christian:) The key the Lord showed me to winning the respect of both Hindu and Muslim leaders, while also carefully winning converts, was to always emphasize the positive, to show respect for the things within their faith that we had in common, and to present my faith simply as a free choice option. My sample over many years of unconditional love and care for all won their respect, so that they came to see joining my faith as something that would make them better people. I was therefore allowed, and even encouraged, to take in those who

came to me for training. You might wonder why I never married. Simply, as has happened to others, the woman never accepted, the opportunity never arose again, and eventually my mission consumed all of my time.

Christmas Evans

Born: December 25, 1766, Esgair-Waun (Ysgaerwen), Cardiganshire, Wales.

Died: July 19, 1838, Swansea, Wales.

Welsh Baptist preacher.

On December 25, 1766, a son was born to an impoverished Welsh shoemaker and his wife. They chose to name him for the day of his birth. When Christmas Evans was nine, his father died in his cobbler stall, awl in hand. His mother farmed out the children to others, and Christmas went to live with an alcoholic uncle. The boy ran with rough gangs, fighting and drinking and endangering his life. He was unable to read a word. But then Christmas heard the Welsh evangelist David Davies. He soon gave his life to Christ, and Davies began teaching him by candlelight in a barn at Penyralltfawr. Within a month, Christmas was able to read from his Bible, and he expressed a desire to preach. With time, he mastered Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. His old gang, however, was annoyed. One night they attacked him on a mountain road, beating him and gouging out his right eye.

The young man nonetheless resolved to preach, and preach he did. Ordained in 1789, he ministered for most of his life in Anglesey and Caernarvon. He had a passion for souls, preached tirelessly, and was able to communicate his fervor to his largely working class Welsh audiences. Wherever he went—churches, coal

mines, open fields—crowds gathered and a spirit of revival swept over the listeners. Unable to afford a horse, he started across Wales by foot, preaching in towns and villages with great effect.

But Christmas Evans eventually lost the joy of ministry. His health broke, and he seemed to have used up his spiritual zeal. On April 10, 1802, he climbed into the Welsh mountains, determined to wrestle with God until his passion returned. The struggle lasted for hours, but finally tears began to flow, and Christmas felt the joy of his salvation returning. He made a covenant with God that day, writing down 13 items, initialing each one. The fourth said, “Grant that I may not be left to any foolish act that may occasion my gifts to wither...” And the eighth said, “Grant that I may experience the power of Thy Word before I deliver it.”

The burly, one-eyed preacher left the mountaintop that day with a power that shook Wales and the neighboring island of Anglesey until his death 36 years later, at age 72. He is called the “Bunyan of Wales.” Together with John Elia and William Williams, he is considered one of the three greatest preachers in Wales.

(Christmas:) I faced hardships, and at one point I lost the will to serve Jesus. I loved Him and I wanted to be His servant, but I felt that if something didn’t change in me, if I didn’t overcome my doubts and discouragement, I wouldn’t be the kind of witness that I knew Jesus wanted me to be. Like Jacob, who wrestled with the angel to get the blessing from God, I wanted the same.

There are many stories of the Lord doing miracles to heal the lame and the blind and to speak to people about love. That was good, but what really got me in the end was that love that carried Him to the cross for you and for me. Think of that! He gave His life for us so that we might better understand His love for us. Jesus had that kind of love in all that He did throughout His life. Now I know that love and feel it much stronger.

Many in Jesus' time were out for themselves and what they could get from Jesus. It was also like that in my day, and it continues to be that way in your day. There are people who aren't really seeking for more in life and are simply there for the "loaves and the fishes" of your Christian beliefs. But do you want something better than momentary satisfaction and momentary healing? Try the love of God that constrains you in everything that you do. That's what I was after.

When I lost sight of the goal and when I had my eyes on myself and the "loaves and fishes" of this life, I lost my driving passion for Christ. What I found up there on the mountain was plain and simple—love from Jesus. No longer were His miracles and stories just about showing His power. That's not what He wanted, for He could have gone on endlessly curing mankind of all their ills. He could have set up "Jesus and Disciples Incorporated—Healing Center," but that's not what He did. Why? Because there is more to life than just being healthy, sane, and fed. There's a love that knows no bounds and that is stronger than the strongest cords this world can make. There is a bond that binds us to Jesus that is simply love, and that's what can keep you through life better than anything.

That's what my personal epiphany was on that mountain. It didn't matter what I felt from then on, I knew that I was loved and called by the One Who had saved me. If I only had my feet, I'd go everywhere spreading His message to His children. If I was given a horse, I'd get there faster; it didn't matter. I was bought and paid for already, and I had one mission alone—to be Jesus' slave and to do His bidding. Do you want to have the passion I did? Do you want to have that same driving force? Get connected to Jesus and fall in love with Him.

Christopher Columbus

Gallant Voyager in America (1451-1506)-- (Excerpts from the book, "Famous Explorers")

"Men of Faith climb unscaled walls, they sail uncharted seas..."

Did you know that Columbus discovered America by prophecy? In his letter to King Ferdinand & Queen Isabella in 1502, he said, "In the carrying out of this enterprise of the Indies, neither reason nor mathematics nor maps were any use to me: Fully accomplished were the words of Isaiah (11:10-12)". Those verses say that "the Earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord...to recover the remnant of His people...from the islands of the sea...& gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the Earth." Columbus believed that he had been chosen by God for this purpose.

Columbus began to navigate ships when he was 14 & worked as a corsair (like a privateer, a sort of professional pirate that governments would hire). Once when his ship caught fire & burned, he miraculously escaped & swam a great distance to the Portuguese coast hanging on to a wooden oar. He landed on the shore near Prince Henry the Navigator's great academy for seamen. Columbus believed that God had saved him to do some great thing.

At that time Portugal was on the western edge of the World, beyond it lay "the Dark Sea" supposedly full of monsters, & it was believed that ships going there would fall off the edge of the World & be destroyed. Lisbon was full of mariners seeking adventure & it was there that Columbus found his brother Bartholomew, a map maker. Columbus read many books there, especially the Bible & the stories of Marco Polo. Soon he was convinced that the Earth was round & he wanted to be the one to prove it. All he had was great faith & a vision,

but now he needed a king to sponsor him.

The king of Portugal refused him. King Ferdinand & Queen Isabella of Spain told him that they were too busy with the war against the Moors, so Columbus decided to ask the King of France to give him ships.

On his way Columbus stopped at a convent to beg for food. There he met a priest who was a friend of Queen Isabella, the Queen of Spain. The footsore traveller told his story to the priest & the priest said, "I will send a letter to the Queen!"

The Queen sent a messenger to Columbus with word for him to return to court. Before long, he signed an agreement with the Spanish monarchs. The agreement stated that he was to be called "Admiral of the Ocean", & was to receive one-tenth of the money he made from lands which he might discover. He set sail on August 3, 1492 across the Atlantic Ocean thinking the journey would be quite short. However, days turned to weeks & weeks turned into months with still no sight of land. The men were mutinous & fearful. Several times low-lying clouds were mistaken for land. Then on the evening of October 11, 1492, Columbus was peering ahead & suddenly cried, "Look! Is that a light?" Others could not see it, but all night they heard birds passing overhead. At 2 a.m. a sailor caught sight of land. Could the sight of land ever have been more welcome to the eyes of men?

At sunrise, Columbus stepped into a small boat, & sailors rowed him to shore. The moment must have been one of the greatest in his life. When he reached the solid ground, Columbus shouted that the land would belong to the King & Queen of Spain.

There were people on the land, people with brownish skins. They had observed the coming of the visitors, & had run to hide amid the trees not far from the shore. The beards & the white skins of the visitors were a wonder to them, as

they themselves had no beards.

Columbus learned that he was on an island, & gave it the name of San Salvador, which is Spanish for "Holy Saviour". The island was one of the Bahama group, but exactly which one, we do not know to this day. Some scholars believe that it was the small island now known as Watling's Island.

Columbus believed he was close to India, & called the brown-skinned natives "Indians". This mistaken name was later applied to all the natives of North & South America, & it has lasted to this day.

The natives of San Salvador were friendly toward the Spaniards. Columbus gave them glass beads, coloured caps & little bells. In return he received balls of cotton yarn, bread made from roots, & a few gold nose-rings. The bells were a delight to the simple "children of Nature" who rang them & danced up & down as they heard the sound.

The golden nose-rings pleased the Spaniards, but Columbus had hoped "the Lord would show him where gold is `born'!" They asked the Indians where to find more. The signs of the Indians seemed to mean, "Go to islands of the South."

Columbus & his men set sail toward the South, & island after island was found, but none of them appeared to be rich in gold. Cuba was one of the islands discovered. It seemed so large that Columbus mistook it for the mainland of Asia.

After leaving Cuba, the Spaniards sailed to an island which they named "Espaola", meaning "little Spain". The modern name for the island is Haiti. In December, Columbus visited many parts of the island, but on Christmas Eve, a grave accident took place. The Santa Maria ran aground on a sand bank & was completely wrecked. Fortunately, all of those on board were saved.

There was not enough room on the Pinta & the Nina for all of the sailors, so thirty-eight of them built a fort & remained on the island while the rest returned

to Spain. More than eight months after he had left, Columbus came back to the harbour of Palos, Spain. Bells were rung, & the people of the town shouted for joy. Men who had dared the Dark Sea had come back alive!

Stepping safely on the soil of Spain, Columbus was treated with honour by King Ferdinand & Queen Isabella. He was given a great reception, & rode in a procession with soldiers on horseback. A dozen Indians, whom he had brought back with him, also passed before the public gaze.

Columbus told the monarchs that with more ships & men he could certainly bring wealth to Spain, & he displayed golden bracelets & other trinkets which he had obtained.

Once more the Admiral set sail across the Dark Sea, this time in command of seven ships. No longer was the Atlantic such a fearful body of water.

The fleet reached Haiti safely, but, sad to say, the sailors who had been left there were gone. The fort was in ruins, & nearby Indians reported that the sailors had fallen into quarrels with members of another tribe on the island, & had been slain.

The Spaniards started a settlement in Haiti & called it "Isabella" in honour of the Spanish queen. However, the quest for gold more than souls began to affect Columbus. Armed with muskets & cannon, the white men made slaves of the Indians & forced them to work in gold mines. A bit was found but never enough to meet the desires of greedy men.

"Christopher" means "Christ bearer", & like his name, he felt he was called of God to help Christianise the World, but "Columbus" means "coloniser" & he also greatly desired wealth & power & recognition. Sad to say, once his mission was accomplished he forgot to "set his affections on things above & not on the things of this Earth" (Col.3:2). He forgot to "delight himself in the Lord" & to "seek first the Kingdom of God" (Psa.37:4; Mat.6:33)--& the things he thought he

had were taken from him.

He died in Spain, fourteen years after his first voyage across "the Dark Sea". The closing days of his life were spent in poverty, & not much attention was paid to him, but at least he had opened the way for hundreds of other white men to reach the New World with the Gospel! PTL!

Corrie Daniel

Born: April 10, 1777, Argyllshire, Scotland.

Died: Feb. 5, 1837, Madras, India.

East India Company chaplain and first Bishop of Madras. Corrie was educated at Cambridge. In 1806, under the influence of Charles Simeon, he went to Bengal as a company chaplain, becoming the presidency chaplain in 1819 and Archdeacon of Calcutta in 1823. Corrie combined missionary work with his duties as chaplain and worked at translating the liturgy and establishing schools. His generosity to the destitute made him much loved and respected, and also extremely poor. After 1814, he helped supervise the CMS (Church Missionary Society) mission in Bengal and acted as a channel of information and advice for the CMS missionaries. Corrie believed that Indians should be ordained and was instrumental in the appointment of Abdul Masih as the first CMS reader. Eventually, in 1835, he was appointed the first Bishop of Madras. He was a gentle and humble man, with wisdom and firmness, who was universally loved and regarded. He died 16 months later.

(Corrie:) I endured some opposition from church members because I fully expected my new Muslim convert, Masih, to undertake service to our Lord in the

congregation, which they did not agree with. Eventually he became my partner in preaching the Gospel, and because of him, many more Muslims were reached. Masih was a godsend, because he knew the language, the customs, and the culture to reach his own people. He was a faithful teacher everywhere he went. We traveled much together for the purpose of spreading the Gospel. He could speak with authority when it came to caste, and he always did, giving people scripture. He sang with people and taught them scripture. They respected him, as did I. Because of Masih and others like him, I was more readily accepted by the people I was working to reach. He went on to establish his own mission post, carrying on the work of Christ. Respect your converts, take them under your wing and train them, for you cannot tell which of them will be a godsend who will help you to reach many that you couldn't reach on your own.

David Jones

Born: 1797, Neuaddwyd, Wales.

Died: 1840, Mauritius.

Missionary pioneer to Madagascar. Jones and Thomas Bevan went with their wives to Mauritius in 1818, then went on to pioneer the work in Madagascar with the London Missionary Society. Malagasy fever took his wife, baby, and the Bevan family of three, leaving David to minister alone. He helped the slave trade to be outlawed there in 1820. He left the country in 1830, then tried to return. In 1835, his missionary efforts were hindered when Christianity was labeled a forbidden religion. The seeds that he sowed reaped a later harvest. He and David Griffiths engaged in translation, so that the first Bible printed in an African language was published in 1835. In June 1840, he was held prisoner. Managing to escape, he fled to Mauritius, where he died shortly thereafter of fever at the age of 43.

(Jesus:) David is one of My greats—one of My servants who burned brightly against all odds and completed his mission. He felt he hadn't accomplished much, or at least not all that he wanted to accomplish in his fervor and faith. In fact, he was thrown out of the very mission field where his wife and child and friends had died. To some, he seemed to be a failure; but his determination to follow his heart led to the first translation of the Scriptures in an African language, which was his life's greatest work. That Bible spread the message further than he ever could have. The souls won as a result of his sacrifices live on eternally and are as stars in his crown, in his wife and children's crowns, and in Thomas and his family's crowns. All were part of this, all sacrificed for this, and to this day the stars

continue to multiply as they receive “royalties” of every soul won in that part of Africa because of their obedience and faith in getting the ball rolling.

Devereux Jarratt

Born: January 17, 1733, New Kent County, Virginia.

Died: January 29, 1801, Dinwoodie County, Virginia.

Episcopal pastor and evangelist who ministered in Virginia, 1763–1801. He married Martha Claiborne. Jarratt was friendly with many Methodist leaders and was greatly influenced by them. Anglicans considered him a fanatic, but he won thousands of converts to the Lord. Jarratt wrote *Revival of Religion in Virginia* (1773), and *Argument (Anabaptists vs. Methodists) on Baptism* (1814).

(Jesus:) They called him a fanatic, but he got the job done and had a lot of fun in the process. Devereux wasn't worried about what others thought of his zeal for the Gospel; he focused on his mission, and as a result won thousands to Me. His life was exciting and moving. His spirit was alive and cutting edge, because he pushed the Gospel, he pushed salvation, and he pushed the importance of the spirit over the flesh.

His childhood was poor. He was accustomed to simple things, and as a youngster was intimidated by his richer neighbors. His natural withdrawal from those who he felt were somewhat above him was changed through the Holy Spirit, Who gave him the boldness he needed to not only pastor a thousand-strong church, but to teach unconventional beliefs.

His convictions were tested many times by his own congregation, who argued

with him because of his beliefs; yet he stood strong, if not alone at times, and influenced thousands of lives to gain a closer walk with Me and a better understanding of the things of the Spirit.

Edward Payson

Born: July 25, 1783, Rindge, New Hampshire.

Died: October 22, 1827, Portland, Maine.

Congregational pastor in Portland, Maine, 1807–27. During his 20 years there, he won more than 700 converts. He also traveled and conducted large evangelistic endeavors. He married Anna Shipman on May 8, 1811, and had eight children, including Elizabeth (Prentiss—novelist and hymn writer.) Payson was known for his devotional life and prayer time. He wrote *The Bible Above All Price* (1814).

(Edward:) The key to everything that I did and lived for was the Lord and His Word. “Heaven and Earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away” (Mat.24:35). I studied and absorbed the Word and spent time in meditation with my Maker. It was this time spent in the temple, and this time of infilling, that gave me the drive, passion, joy of the Lord, and everything I needed in order to live for Him. It was my love for Jesus, and His love for me, that helped me to convert many to Him and do His work. That love came from our time of communion together. The stronger your foundation of faith in His Word is, the more powerful your prayers for others will be. I tried to live my life to the best of my ability according to the Word. This was the legacy that I wanted to leave my

children—an example of a life of faith, based on the Word, so that no matter what career they chose, they would always have Jesus at the center of their lives.

Ei Ericson

(HOPE7) (Excerpts from the book, "Famous Explorers")

Across the Atlantic with the Norsemen

"Men of Faith climb unscaled walls, sail uncharted seas..."

About the year 870 AD, Vikings, or bands of Norsemen, began to settle in Ireland. Some came straight from Norway. Others had lived for a time in the Orkney Islands, north of Scotland.

The Vikings were the leading travellers of their day. Setting out from ports in Norway, Sweden & Denmark, they boarded long, open boats. Then they sailed far & wide over the North Sea & the North Atlantic, also over the Baltic Sea.

When they came to a land which seemed like a good place to settle, the Vikings went ashore. If natives tried to bar their way, the Vikings fought them.

The Norsemen were fond of telling stories about their heroes, which their children were careful to remember. Some of the old Norse stories have come down to us & are known as "sagas". The most important are those which tell about Eric the Red & his son, Leif.

Eric the Red was born in Norway. He seems to have been a quarrelsome fellow, & was driven out of his native land after committing a crime. Sailing to Iceland, he settled there & was married to a woman named Thorhild. The first of their three children was named Leif.

In Iceland, Eric fell into more trouble, & at last was told to leave the island. Where should he go? Not back to Norway! It so happened that he had heard of a

land to the west. A Viking had seen it years before, when driven from his course during a storm.

Toward that "land to the west", Eric sailed, & before long he reached it. It was a huge island, mostly covered with snow & ice. Landing on the coast, the Vikings explored it, going a short distance into the interior. They saw no people, though they walked part way up the side of the huge "ice-mountain".

Eric the Red & his friends spent three years exploring the southern coast of the great island they had found which contained more than 800,000 square miles, though they did not know it. They obtained food by hunting & fishing. Here & there, they found grass & other plant life which made a little edge of green on certain parts of the coast. Going back to Iceland, they told the people what they had learned. Eric called the new place "Greenland", & spoke so highly about it that many persons wanted to go there.

The name of Greenland has been kept to this day. It is not a descriptively accurate name, since the island is far more "icy" than Iceland!

Like other Vikings, the Iceland settlers were restless of spirit. Fitting up two dozen or more of their sea-going boats, a large number of persons made ready to leave. In the party were woman & children, as well as men. One of the children was Leif, the son of Eric.--Hence his surname Ericson.

The boats were loaded with food & water, also with livestock. Fourteen boats reached Greenland safely. The rest turned back to Iceland, or were lost in storms which swept the sea. Among those who escaped the dangers of the trip to Greenland were Eric & his son Leif. It must have been exciting for the boy to make such a voyage! In those days, the use of the compass was not known anywhere in the western world. The Vikings had to guide themselves by the position of the sun in the daytime, & by the North Star by night.

Leif lived in Greenland until he grew to be a young man. He seems to have

been in his early twenties when he made a journey to Norway, where he visited King Olaf. The Norwegian king had become Christian. He had stopped praying to Thor & Odin & other old Norse gods, & was very earnest in his belief in the Christian religion.

"When you go back to Greenland," he said to Leif, "I want you to teach the people to be Christians." Leif gave his promise, & later spent several years spreading his new faith in pagan Greenland.

Leif is known in history as "Leif Ericson". It is almost certain that he led the first party of white men to the mainland of North America. The old Norse stories do not agree on all points of the adventure. One of them says that Leif was returning from Norway to Greenland when his ship was blown from its course in a storm. It goes on to relate that he reached a place called "Vinland" by accident.

Another account runs like this:

"A Viking named Biarni told about travels on which he had seen lands west of Greenland. There was now much talk about voyages of discovery. Leif, the son of Eric the Red, visited Biarni, & bought a ship from him. Then he gathered a crew of men, & formed a company of thirty-five persons.

"Leif asked his father to join them, & at last old Eric said he would go. Just before sailing, Eric rode on a pony toward the place of sailing. On the way, the pony stumbled, & Eric was thrown & hurt. He then declared that it was not meant that he should go. So Leif became the leader. When they were ready, they sailed out to sea.

"After a time they reached a land which had flat rocks all the way from the sea to the ice mountains. A boat was sent ashore, but there was no sign of growing grass, 'I will call this country Helluland,' said Leif.

"Sailing further, they found a second land, with growing trees & broad stretches of white sand. 'This,' said Leif, 'I shall call Markland.' Again they sailed

toward the southwest, & came to an island. They landed, & looked about them. The weather was fine, & there was dew on the grass.

"They boarded their ship again, & went into a sound (a large bay) which lay between the island & a cape which jutted out from the land on the north.

"At ebb tide, they ran their ship aground. They were so anxious to go ashore that they could not wait until the tide should rise, but hastened to the land, where a certain river flows out from a lake. As soon as the tide rose, however, they rowed the ship up the river & into the lake. There they cast anchor. After going ashore, they decided to stay for the winter. They built a large house. There were plenty of salmon in the river & in the lake, larger salmon than they ever had seen before.

"When the house was finished, Leif said, 'We shall now divide our number into two groups. One group shall stay at home, while the other goes out to explore the country.'

"Leif, himself, took turns in joining the exploring party or staying at home. One day the party came back without a man named Tyrker, & Leif was sorely troubled. With twelve men, he set out to look for the missing man. Before they had gone far, they found Tyrker. He was in high spirits, & grinned, as he said, 'I did not go much farther than the rest, but I found vines & grapes!' Later Tyrker led his companions to the grapes, & they picked many of the grapes. Leif called the land 'Vinland' because of the vines & grapes."

The Norse story goes on to tell how Leif & his sailors left in the spring, & went back to Greenland. In later years other Norsemen are said to have settled in the Land of Vines, but their settlements did not last long.

On his voyage to the west, it is believed that Leif Ericson made visits to the coast of Labrador & Nova Scotia in Canada, the latter being the place of "trees & broad stretches of white sand."

The exact location of Vinland has been a puzzle. Perhaps the best reasons have been given for placing it in the United States on Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Yet some believe it may have been as far south as the coast of New Jersey. The discovery probably took place around the year 1000 AD, five hundred years before Columbus "discovered" America!

Eli Stanley Jones

Born: 1884, Baltimore, Maryland.

Died: 1973, India.

He studied law briefly before embarking upon theology studies. In 1907 he became a Methodist missionary to India, where he met a fellow missionary named Mabel Lossing, marrying her in 1911. Jones began his mission work among the lowest class of people, but his approach soon attracted Indians of all castes. He helped to reestablish the Indian "ashram" (forest retreat) where men and women would come together for days at a time to explore each other's faiths. Jones would later go on to establish Christian ashrams around the world.

His reputation as a "reconciler" got him invited to many political negotiations in India, Africa, and Asia. He inaugurated "round table conferences" at which Christian and non-Christian sat down as equals to share their testimonies as to how their religious experiences enabled them to live better. This opening up of nations to receiving Christ within their own framework marked a new approach in missions. It came to be known as "indigenization." He was greeted in Japan as the "Apostle of Peace." In Africa, he was called the "Reconciler." His efforts in Burma, Korea, and the Belgian Congo, between China and Japan, and between Japan and the United States, to mention only a few, received wide attention.

He subsidized schools for lay leaders and provided “church extension gifts” to build churches and schools in Indian villages and cities. In 1950, Dr. Jones provided funds for India’s first Christian psychiatric center and clinic, at Lucknow. He had a strong influence in curtailing the spread of communism in India. In 1947 in the United States, he launched the Crusade for a Federal Union of Churches. He conducted mass meetings from coast to coast and spoke in almost 500 cities, towns, and churches. In 1959, Stanley Jones was named “Missionary Extraordinary” by the Methodist missionary publication *World Outlook*.

For many years Stanley Jones spent six months of each year in North America, conducting city-wide evangelistic missions, Christian ashrams, and other spiritual life missions, and the other six months overseas. He traveled widely, speaking three or more times daily. A large amount of correspondence, writing a book every other year, and constant personal counseling completed a program that went on around the clock, around the year, and around the world.

In December 1971, at the age of 88, while leading the Oklahoma Christian ashram, he suffered a stroke that seriously impaired him physically but not mentally and spiritually. He was severely impaired in his speech, but dictated onto a tape recorder his last book, *The Divine Yes*, and in June of 1972 gave moving messages from his wheelchair at the First Christian Ashram World Congress in Jerusalem. He died on January 25, 1973, in his beloved India. E. Stanley Jones was truly a “Missionary Extraordinary” to the twentieth century.

(Stanley:) My life was spent finding ways to bring people together in Christ. I sought and found ways to focus on the points in common, on the common desire to love others and to find the power of unity. Most Christians in my time were focused on trying to show how they were different from one another and more

right and righteous; they saw other religions as a threat instead of an opportunity.

I saw the deep desire in the hearts of so many Hindus to do good and to lift others in their suffering. I appealed to them at this level, because that is exactly what Jesus gives us power to do: to meet the deepest spiritual needs of others. By drawing them to ourselves and the Lord with His love, we have the ability to empower others to meet their deepest desires. First they must relate to you. They must understand your motivation, your actions, and your words, and they must grasp them in terms they can understand. That is what I chose to do in creating Christian ashrams.

I was a radical to most Christians of my day because I told them to discard their doctrinal shibboleths. I even told them it was essential to come together with those who don't yet know Jesus and to reach out in love to them. The people they drew into their circle didn't have to be saved and a church member. They didn't even have to understand about Jesus. I tried to be an example of Christian love, of unconditional acceptance of all who wanted to do good. We welcomed everyone, Christian or Hindu or any other religion, if they were sincerely seeking to learn to love and to work together. We sought to give them the power and encouragement and means to accomplish this purpose. We strove to be the selfless sample of acceptance and love that Jesus taught us. "While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

The sample of unconditional love that these Christian ashrams presented did more to teach Hindus about Jesus and what He had to offer them than preaching sermons or setting up churches could have. Many would attend hesitantly, expecting to be pressured to accept Christianity. But as they saw our acceptance and a desire for all to work together for the good of others, they began to grow curious about what could make people so kind and loving. They were motivated to discover the source of such a genuine and unselfish love; not through pressure

or coercion, but through a desire to know more about Someone Who could make them into something greater than they knew themselves to be.

In like manner, the Lord asks you to have unconditional love in everything you do and say. Demonstrate true love, great love, born out of a deep desire to do whatever the Lord asks of you.

It was the breaking, the crushing of my life that taught me deep love for others and helped me to see how I could be the vessel He wanted me to be. I could look at anyone and all I could see was their desperate need for His love and power, no matter what the outward appearance.

You want miracles? You want the power of God pouring through you in ways that will transform lives and hearts? You don't gain that by looking for what you don't like about others. You don't gain that through separating yourself from others who appear different from you. You only find that kind of earth-changing power and the way to utilize it to the full when the Lord's heart beats within you.

If Jesus asks it of you, then you can do what He asks, if you want to badly enough. He may not ask the same thing of everyone, but you can be sure that the thing He asks of you will be the thing that requires you to give of yourself to the full in the way that you and He will know that you mean business. Nothing else will satisfy you.

That's what I'm here to help you with. That's what's going to turn the Family into the unstoppable powerhouses that the Lord needs you to be. Don't judge tomorrow by today. Don't put anyone or anything in a box. Before I changed, you would never have imagined such a person as me could have the kind of passion that developed. Never underestimate the power of personal change when that change has commitment and motivation driving it and the Lord's power supporting it.

Here you were thinking that you were finally going to get to retire—or you

were finally going to get to sit back and take it easy and still get all the blessings. Surprise! The Lord loves you far too much to let you do that before your time. If your heart hungers after satisfaction and fulfillment and true contentment, then change can take you there. It's a one-way ticket, because you'll never return to the past ways of doing things. You have to take the plunge to get the thrill!

Eliza Agnew

Born: February 2, 1807, New York, New York.

Died: June 14, 1883, Manepay, Ceylon (Sri Lanka).

Missionary to Ceylon, which at that time was a British colony. In 1840, Eliza was the first single woman missionary to the area. She was head of the boarding school for girls at Oodooville for nearly 40 years, and never returned to the U.S. Miss Agnew, a woman of prayer, concerned with the spiritual welfare of her students, was known as “the mother of 1,000 daughters.” Former students living in every corner of the world prayed for her when she was stricken with paralysis.

(Jesus:) When Eliza forsook all, she really forsook all. She gave her all to her field, pouring into it every last drop of service she could. She gave her life on the altar of service. She knew she had a mission and she pursued it with such vigor that rarely had a woman of God been referred to with such reverent awe. Her secret was keeping her hand on the plow and reminding herself constantly of her mission. Keeping her eyes on the goal saw her through countless difficulties and obstacles.

(Eliza:) God told me that He wanted me to be a missionary for Him when I was eight years old. Yes, I prayed and heard His voice when I was that young. My

prayer life was one of my joys. In Ceylon, I visited my pupils long after they had graduated in order to teach them the value of prayer. Hundreds of girls came to know Jesus, and all it took was me living among them and teaching them.

I had to wait for a while before I could fulfill my dreams. First I had to take care of my parents, but when they both died, I was free to leave New York for Ceylon. Going to the mission field was a happy day, and each day after was even happier. I never married, but my girls, along with their families, and of course Jesus, were enough to make me very happy.

Elizabeth V. Duncan Dawson-Baker

Born: 1849.

Died: January 18, 1915.

Faith healer and educator. The daughter of a Methodist minister, Elizabeth was inspired at a temperance lecture to dedicate her life to Christian work. Her first marriage to W. A. Dawson ended in divorce. Her second husband, C. W. Baker (doctor), also separated from her. Elizabeth and her four sisters opened the Elim Faith Mission in Rochester, New York, in 1895. She went to India in 1898 and met Pandita Ramabai. Elizabeth also founded Elim Tabernacle, Faith Home, and Bible Training School, all located in New York. In 1907 she began to identify with the Pentecostals rather than the Methodists.

(Elizabeth:) In my day, I believed many of the things that you do. After all, if it's in the Bible, it's worth believing! However, many of the churches of my time only believed in the parts of the Bible that they were comfortable with, and they ignored the parts that made them uncomfortable. I was a believer in "afflicting the comfortable," as our Lord was, if it would get them up and out of their

churches to preach the Gospel to others. And the “comfortable” afflicted me in return, ha!

They didn't care for the fact that I was a woman; that we believed in living for the Lord by faith; that we believed in healing; that we had tracts and literature that we used to spread our beliefs; and that we believed that God could speak through us in prophecy. So we sometimes kicked up a storm of controversy, and other times of opposition, but nevertheless, the Gospel was preached.

I hope you realize that it has never been easy to live and work as the Bible says we should, whether it was in my day, in your day, or hundreds of years ago. It's always difficult to fully dedicate your life to Jesus. But, oh, it's so worth it! It's worth it there on Earth as you see lives transformed and made anew, and it's worth it in Heaven when you see what sort of impact you had on the world, and you gain rewards that last for eternity! When it comes to the Lord and His Kingdom, His children are the central figures in history, and in Heaven their story will be told at last!

Fidelia Fiske

Born: May 1, 1816, Shelburne, Massachusetts.

Died: July 26, 1864.

First single woman missionary to Persia. Fidelia was converted at age 15, and joined the Congregational Church. Influenced by her uncle, Pliny Fisk (Syrian missionary) and inspired by Mary Lyon (a seminary teacher), she went to Urmia, Persia (Iran), in 1843. She opened a boarding school called Westovian Female Seminary under the auspices of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and its Nestorian Mission, at Oroomiah, starting with only six girls. After 15 years of labor in the field, illness forced her to return home. Her last years were spent volunteering at Mt. Holyoke (Massachusetts) Female Seminary, where she had taught earlier. She died at the age of 48.

(Jesus:) Fidelia Fiske felt a strong pull in her heart, but only when she determined to follow the calling—which meant hurdling the obstacles before her—was she able to reach the young girls and others she helped in Persia. The opposition of her family, the prejudice toward female missionaries, her weakened health, the cultural differences on the field (especially in regards to women and educating girls) didn't dissuade her, but rather pushed her forward and gave her a stronger will to follow Me and accomplish her life's calling. She received the full assurance of My will when desperate in prayer, and determined that following it would be worth any cost. Her reward is great, for she didn't make the many seemingly legitimate excuses she could have made in order to dodge My calling. She is a sample of how I can use you despite your seeming limitations.

Florence Allshorn

Born: December 19, 1887, Sheffield, England.

Died: July 3, 1950, England.

Missionary and educator of missionaries. Raised in Sheffield, Florence worked on the cathedral staff. She encouraged factory girls and Sunday school teachers alike. In 1920, she was accepted by the Church Missionary Society for service in Uganda. She was a born educator and had a wonderful school at Iganga. She read 1 Corinthians 13 every day for a year to help her really love “her people.” She returned to England in 1924 with a bad lung. The CMS (Church Missionary Society) asked her to help in a training college for female missionaries, which she did until 1940. She then founded St. Julian’s Community, in Sussex, which was a place for those who needed fellowship and a new start. In 1950, the community moved to Coolham, to larger quarters. She had Hodgkin’s disease, and after weeks of painful illness, she died.

(Florence:) Loving others was my greatest goal and greatest fulfillment. I often read 1 Corinthians 13, not just for that one year, but because I always wanted to remember that it didn’t matter what accomplishments I had; if I didn’t have love, it was nothing. Each time I read it, I was able to apply it in a different situation, a different personal application unfolded, and I found myself constantly faced with opportunities to love others. We all are!

I didn’t live a life of perfection, far from it; but the love I felt for my people wasn’t on the surface or just skin deep. I would have given my life for each and every one of those people, and I did. What a glory it has been! I was an encouragement to those I ministered to, not because I had the right words to say

or knew how to win people, but because they felt the love I had for them. I would weep with them and laugh with them! The love I had in my heart was a love given me by the Lord. He blessed my efforts with a deep love for my people.

If ever I was asked what I wanted on my tombstone when I died, I would wish for nothing else than something depicting the fruits of the love I felt for those I ministered to. I wanted to be known for my love, and I'm so glad I am.

Francis Asbury

Born: August 20, 1745, Handsworth, England.

Died: March 31, 1816, Spotsylvania, Virginia.

Father of Methodism in America. Converted in his family's barn at age 16, he later traveled as an evangelist, 1766–71. In 1771, Asbury came to America, never to return to Europe. He was made the first bishop in America, ordained on December 25, 1784, at Baltimore, in the historic conference that formed Methodism in America. Asbury never married, never had a place to call “home,” and evangelized until his death. He saw his work grow to 3,000 preachers ordained by him, and from 13,790 to 214,235 members. Asbury traveled over 300,000 miles in his ministry and preached 17,000 sermons. Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky, was named for him.

(Jesus:) Bravery is an asset for missionaries—being unafraid to go where others wouldn't dare. America was a wild new land, and it was during Francis' time there that the war for independence was fought. Out of fear, many English left the country at that time, but Francis felt called by Me to stay and witness. He was committed to his field for the long term, and his bravery and perseverance

paid off in great and long-lasting fruit.

(Francis:) I was a revolutionary in my day. I was a missionary, sent from England to minister to the people of America. I was young and idealistic. A few years after I first moved to America, the American Revolution started, and this presented a conundrum for me. I found myself a Brit in a country that was fighting against my country of birth.

Soon the time came to make the decision whether I should go or stay. Most of my fellow pastors and co-workers chose to return to England. I must say, the pull for me to return was very strong. I was afraid of what would happen to me if I remained pretty much on my own. On the one hand, I wanted the stability and safety of my church and loved ones; but on the other hand, I knew that the Lord had called me to be in this country and to be a missionary, reaching those who needed Him. It was a major struggle for me, and I think it's a struggle that many have had over the ages, whether or not to put their personal safety and well-being over the job that the Lord has given them.

After much prayer and supplication, along with much desperation, I finally came to the conclusion that the Lord had given His life for me, so how could I give Him any less. I made a firm resolution that I was going to stay on the field, come what may. Many of my co-workers didn't approve of this decision, and although some were supportive, in the end, I was the only one left; everybody else went back to "safety." At the time, this was a major blow to me, but I knew that I was following the Lord and that He would bless me, and He surely did.

The years following the American Revolution were some of the most fruitful years of my life! So many souls were won. So many people were brought to the truth. So much message got out. It wasn't easy to be on my own and without the support and leadership that I was used to and that I wanted, but this ended up

setting me free. I was free to do as the Lord led. I was free to witness and not be caught up in church procedure and policy.

Throughout this time, the Lord kept me safe. He protected me from attacks of the Enemy, even through miraculous means at times when He made me invisible to those who would have sought to do me harm. Over and over I saw the Lord work. He worked in the lives of those who I ministered to. He worked in my life, adjusting my attitudes and giving me the heart that He wanted me to have. He worked in other ways too, supplying my needs, keeping me safe, healing me. He showed his power in so many ways.

That's my story about this time of decision in my life. It wasn't easy, and there were a few times when I was afraid I had made the wrong decision, but the Lord came through time and again, and the rewards for making the right choice were overwhelming. Of course, I realize that that was simply the choice that the Lord wanted for me, and that if others are in a similar situation, the Lord might lead them to go a different direction. The point of this testimony is simply about my struggle with the decision-making, and then the Lord's answers and wonderful fulfillment of all His promises. I shudder to think what would have happened if I had gone back to England instead of staying in America. I'm sure that the Lord could have used me, and He would have used me to some degree, but it would have been the second-best choice for me.

So follow Jesus in your personal choices. Whatever He says always works out. I had to put this to the test many times, and although it got a bit easier toward the end, it was always a test. It's never easy to step out into the unknown or to make what seems to be the "foolish" decision in the eyes of the world. But if that's the choice that the Lord wants for you, then it's more than worth it!

Frederick S. Arnot

Born: September 12, 1858, Glasgow, Scotland.

Died: May, 1914, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Plymouth Brethren missionary explorer of Central Africa. In 1881, Arnot went to South Africa and then proceeded from Durban to the upper Zambezi region in 1885, a journey with many narrow escapes from death along the way. He worked amongst the Barotse, 1882–84. He was in Angola (1884) and in Northern Rhodesia (Zambia) (1888). Arnot married on one of his furloughs. He was the greatest African explorer since the days of Livingstone and Stanley, discovering the source of the Zambezi River. At the time of his death, 61 missionaries were working at 16 stations in five areas of Central Africa.

(Frederick:) It was exciting being a missionary in Africa when it was first being explored and opened up to Christianity. To be a missionary was to be a jack of all trades: linguist, diplomat and peacemaker, hunter, carpenter, builder, cook, doctor, and more. You had to learn many different things for your own survival, and often the Lord used the things you learned to bring life or health or peace to others.

You were always learning, always growing, constantly stretching and maturing, and that's the way it should be in a missionary's life. Many churches and missionaries today have become very settled down. They've become stuck in the past and the way things used to be and how they used to be done, the methods of the past and the way God spoke and operated in the past. Thank the Lord for Christians and missionaries like you who believe in change, in reaching the people of today with the methods not just of today but of the future, while still remaining firmly on the rock of unchanging truth! Keep learning and growing

and breaking new ground for Jesus.

George Allan

Born: January 31, 1871, East Taeiri, New Zealand.

Died: October 26, 1941, La Paz, Bolivia.

First director of Bolivian Indian Mission. Allan married Mary A. S. Stirling on October 20, 1898. His daughter, Margarita Hudspith, remained 44 years in Bolivia. He arrived in South America in 1900. He gave nearly 40 years to Bolivian evangelization, with the Quichua Indians as his main target, from 1903 on. With a native Bolivian, Crisologo Barron, he translated the New Testament and Psalms into the Quichua language. By 1990, 45,000 members of the Union of Evangelical Churches were worshiping in over 600 churches. The story of his efforts is told in *Ripening Fruit*. He died of heart failure at the age of 70.

(George:) I knew that if I was to hit my goal of reaching the Bolivian people, I was going to have to put the time in. I had to dedicate myself to this work and be willing to sacrifice a good portion of my life to it. It paid off, and it is something I will never regret. At times when things were not going according to my hopes and plans in my mission in Bolivia, I was highly tempted to think that maybe I should go elsewhere. But each time the Lord gave me the grace to stick it out and to keep persevering. In the end, that's what I did, and the fruit that was borne from my life is due to those choices to stay on and to persevere despite what I was feeling or the lack of obvious fruit right then and there. You can't always see immediate results, but that doesn't mean they won't come. Be willing to put the time in and to apply yourself for a long while, and the good fruit will assuredly come.

George Fisk

Born: September 17, 1905, Binghamton, New York.

Died: April 16, 1977, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Father of missionary aviation, a great pioneer in modern missions. Fisk's dream of reaching the lost in Borneo was the stimulus for the birth of six major mission aviation programs. He sensed God's call to Borneo and sailed there with his wife Anna (1929). In 1932, while on a difficult journey deep in the jungle, he noticed how the hornbills soared with ease overhead, covering in just minutes the distance he and his co-workers had struggled through in hours. By 1935, he had obtained his pilot's license and soon thereafter was soaring over the jungle to travel to places for their mission work. Leaving Borneo on the eve of WWII, he met with three US Navy pilots in 1943 to plan Christian Airmen's Missionary Fellowship (Missionary Aviation Fellowship). This started a ripple effect, and shortly thereafter, Sudan Interior Mission, JAARS (Jungle Aviation and Radio Services), CMA (Christian and Missionary Alliance), MBI (Moody Bible Institute), and Presbyterian mission aviation efforts were "taking off."

(Jesus:) Now, there was a man of initiative and innovation—dear George Fisk, one of My loves, a faithful man who did My bidding and didn't take "no," or "it can't be done," or "it's never been done that way before" for an answer. His example of looking for a better and more efficient way to do things, and then making it a reality, is one that you should take to heart. You might have to learn to do something you've never done before, but if that's what is needed for you to fulfill My specific plan for you, then go for it. Just make sure that you're following My plan closely so that you don't get sidetracked from the mission and the

purpose for which you are gaining the skills and knowledge needed.

I need men and women who are willing to step out and try the new. Your vision and initiative could be the start of something big. George certainly didn't think that his idea, and taking action on it, would have such a profound effect on modern missions. It not only helped to spread My Word farther, wider, and faster, but it also helped to modernize and bring up to speed many of those who were serving Me. I want and need you to find and cultivate ways to do the job better, faster, and more effectively, as this dear man did. Whether it's in simple ways or bigger ways, I've got plenty of ideas up My sleeve to help you to improve your work and life, so that you can really go places and "take off" for Me!

George Fox

Born: July 19, 1624, Drayton-in-the-Clay, England.

Died: Jan 13, 1691, London, England.

Founder of the Society of Friends (Quakers), 1648. Fox was an apprentice shoemaker and visionary, who developed strong opinions about religion. He rebelled against the state control of the Church of England, and in 1643 began touring the country giving sermons, where he argued that consecrated buildings and ordained ministers were irrelevant to the individual seeking God. He was arrested many times for his religious views. Fox rejected church attendance, clergy, and ritual; he embraced pacifism, and preached that the Holy Spirit was the only authority and guide for a Christian. He began preaching that the truth is found only in God speaking directly to the "inner condition," calling his followers "Friends of Truth," later shortened to "Friends." He met with Oliver Cromwell to urge religious liberty, 1655–57. He suffered eight hard imprisonments for his

faith, some of which were at Lancaster and Scarborough Castle (his longest, 1664–66), at Worcester and London (1674), causing serious illness. In 1650 he admonished the judge who sentenced him for blasphemy to “tremble at the word of the Lord,” and hence gained the moniker “Quaker.”

Fox married one of his converts, Margaret Fell (1669), and she joined him on some of his missionary journeys: Scotland (1657), Ireland (1669), North America and the West Indies (1671–73), Holland (1677), Europe (1678), and Holland again (1684). The Quakers also found refuge in Rhode Island and in William Penn’s colony in Pennsylvania in 1682.

Fox was an outstanding evangelist and organizer. His journal and other writings were published from 1694–1706. He taught that the “Inner light of the Holy Spirit” should guide one’s faith and actions, so silent meditation became a part of the meetings. He said he felt more at home in “house churches” than in “steeple churches.” His followers refused to participate in the Church of England services, take oaths, or bear arms. As he died, he said “All is well, and the seed of God reigns over all, and over death itself.” His favorite Bible verse was John 8:12: “I am the light of the world: he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

(Jesus:) The early Quakers stood as a reminder to the world that the only power that could change a life was My Spirit. They stood for the truth that peace, loving-kindness, and forgiveness are greater and more powerful than violence, hatred, and war, and they strove to show it through example. Fox was the inspiration for many others. He had the conviction and faith to step out and set the example in spite of severe persecution for his beliefs and his rejection of the established churches. He was a pioneer who inspired others to do the same.

(George:) When I sailed to the American and Caribbean colonies in 1671, there was an incident when our ship was pursued by pirates. Nothing that the captain and crew tried was able to save us, and the situation appeared hopeless. Even when we waited for cover of night and steered away from our course, still they were able to follow us somehow, and always they were gaining on us.

The captain began to ask me what he ought to do, and even though I was not a sailor, I assured him that we were in God's hands, and that He would see to our protection. I advised the captain to stop trying to escape and to return to the course that he had been following when we'd first spotted our pursuer.

Soon, the pirates were almost upon us. Many of the passengers were quite fearful, but the Lord comforted my heart and helped me to rest in Him. And sure enough, at what seemed like the last possible moment, a strong wind blew straight into our sails. We shot forward, and out of the pirates' grasp. But that was not the end of it. The captain and crew scoffed at me and the other Friends I traveled with, and refused to believe that God had spared us by His mighty power.

But among the passengers, there were quite a number who did believe. One of those was the widow Henrietta Purkins and her children. Mrs. Purkins' husband, Roger, had been working toward taking his family to the new world. They were not exactly poor, but neither were they well off, and they did not have much hope of improving their lot in England at the time. Things were difficult, and the political situation was so volatile that even if you survived disease and filth, you were liable to lose what possessions you had, and even your life, in one of the many plots, purges, or small battles that were taking place throughout the land. Hence, their hope to find a safer place to raise their children.

Roger had died just a week before the ship was setting off, and his wife had decided to go ahead with their plan, as her and her children's passage was already arranged. As was common for widows, she was now head of the family. In

those days, many preachers taught that women did not have a soul. For my part, I believed wholeheartedly that women were not inferior to men, and I admired her fortitude and determination.

During the voyage, the other Friends and I had offered any assistance we could to Mrs. Purkins. After the incident with the pirates, she and I had long discussions, which sea voyages are always conducive to, and she was moved by the Holy Spirit to accept the truth of Jesus' love and salvation, along with her children. When we docked in Jamaica, she stayed with some of her husband's acquaintances while getting set up, and she eventually joined the local group of believers there. Even though the miraculous escape the Lord provided us with was more "newsworthy" and certainly exciting, the miracle of changed lives and hearts was also wonderful to me.

George H. Borrow

Born: July 5, 1803, East Dereham, England.

Died: July 26, 1881, Oultonbroad, England.

Writer, linguist, traveler, and colporteur (distributor) of religious books. Borrow had a natural inclination for adventure throughout his 78 years of life. He became familiar with the habits and language of the gypsies in England and Spain. From 1827–40, and again in 1844 and 1854, he wandered on foot in Europe and in the East, working at times for a newspaper. He worked for the British and Foreign Bible Societies (1833–40) to distribute books in Russia (1833), Portugal, and Spain (1835–40). In 1840, he married and settled in England to write. Borrow prepared the New Testament in the Manchu language. He knew more than 20 languages, 7 of which he was fluent in by the age of 16. His writings range

from *The Zincoli* and *On the Gypsies in Spain* (1841), to *Romany Rye* (1857).

(Jesus:) I took all of George's gifts, talents, and interests and used them fully. Many a time his interests and talents could have led him down another path in life and away from My service and plan for his life. But he would time and again yield his life to Me, and I would then multiply his gifts and use his interests for My glory, and it paid off. He gave My words to many during his day who might not have had the chance or opportunity otherwise. He was one of My salesmen and messenger boys, and he did his job well.

(George:) God gave me a fondness for people. I was keenly interested in everything about a person's culture, language, and beliefs. This interest propelled me to walk through several countries, including France and Germany, talking to people and sharing my love of the Bible. I wrote several books, all of which were influenced in some way by the book I loved best, the Bible. I believe people listened to me because God anointed my gifts for languages and conversation since I used them in order to witness. I had a wonderful life, which was like a grand conversation about God.

George H. Jones

Born: August 14, 1867, Mohawk, New York.

Died: May 10, 1919, Miami, Florida.

Methodist missionary to Korea. In 1887, at age 20, he was stationed at Seoul. He studied the Korean language, literature, history, and beliefs. Jones married Margaret Bengel on May 10, 1893. Jones founded 44 congregations and brought over 2,800 Koreans into the Christ Church in Chemuloc, 1893–1903. While in the States (1903–07), he helped translate the Bible into Korean and served as the president of Biblical Institute and Union Theological Seminary (1907–11). He served as editorial secretary to the Board of Foreign Missions, from 1913 onwards, also lecturing at Boston University.

(George:) If you want a thing done, do it. I wanted to reach the Koreans, but how was I to speak to them, how was I to relate to them, how was I to understand their speech? I calculated the number of team members I would need to help with translations, written communications, preaching and teaching—you name it! Where was I to find these individuals? As clear as anything, God spoke to me: “If you want a thing done, you must do it.” Then the verse came to mind, “My God shall supply all my needs.” My need for language learning? Yes. My need for understanding this strange new culture? Yes. My need to acquire this knowledge on my own? Yes! One simple promise held the answer to all my questions and all my needs. I claimed it daily in my study and in my mission of reaching the precious souls of Seoul, Korea. If you want a thing done—or better yet, if you know God wants a thing done—then you must do it! God will supply all your needs along the way!

George K. Harris

Born: February 17, 1887, Winona, Minnesota.

Died: March 14, 1962, Toronto, Ontario.

Baptist missionary to China. Harris graduated from Moody Bible Institute in 1916 and went to the field the same year to work with China Inland Mission. For 34 years, he worked in Sining, Tsinghai. In 1950, he went to Thailand, where he worked with the Malay people. Harris became one of the few China missionaries to develop an interest in Islam and in the evangelization of Muslims. He buried two children in northwest China and his wife in Thailand. He wrote *How to Lead Muslims to Christ* (1946).

(Jesus:) If you're wondering what kept George through all those years of hardship and difficulty, it was his connection with Me. When his wife and children passed on to their heavenly reward, George held on to Me more tightly than ever. It was the difficulties that drew him closer to My side in prayer and communion, and which gave him a stronger desire to serve Me and tell others about Me. When you feel lost, and those you love are no longer by your side, remember that you always have Me. I can pull you through any difficulty or hard time, as long as you keep a close link and connection with Me. If you're following close by My side and giving Me your all, then you can know beyond a shadow of doubt that all things will work together for your good.

Gideon Blackburn

Born: August 27, 1772, Augusta County, Virginia.

Died: August 23, 1838, Carlinville, Illinois.

Presbyterian clergyman, educator, and pioneer missionary to the Cherokees. He married Grizzel Blackburn on October 3, 1793. He worked with Cherokee youth in Tennessee, 1804–10, and started several schools in Franklin, Tennessee. Blackburn's preaching, teaching, and introduction of agricultural methods to the Indians was largely successful. He was president of Harpeth Academy, 1810–27, and was later made president of Danville College, 1827–30.

(Jesus:) Gideon Blackburn was a man of talent, and he was faithful to hone those talents for My glory. He didn't wait for ministries or possibilities to come to him, but he sought them out and aggressively looked for ways to serve Me. He looked for ways to put his talents to use for My glory, even if those talents weren't yet well refined. He didn't wait until he had his skills down pat, but he worked with what he had, and as he obeyed, as he served, as he witnessed, these talents and his anointing grew and were strengthened. He knows much about "just doing it" and being active in faith, obedience, and service, because this is how he lived his life in dedication to Me.

(Gideon:) I'm humbled at the mention you are giving me. I am thankful for how Jesus worked through me to reach my field of service. It wasn't always easy; in fact, I faced incredible opposition both from the chieftains and from the clergy. The clergy supported the slavery of Indians and had many outdated mindsets, which I had to overcome. The Cherokee chiefs viewed me with suspicion, and at

times I was even called a witch because of the new things I brought to them. I faced threats of death, torture, and banishment, but in the end, the only thing that mattered was fulfilling the call I received to preach the Gospel to every creature. God gave me a gift for working with people, and He gave me the burden to work with the downtrodden and outcast Cherokees. I'm thankful that I was able to use what He gave me to make a difference in their lives.

Gladys Aylward

(From "Stories of Courage" by Cleodie MacKinnon) (HOPE13)

Great Men & Women of Faith

When Gladys Aylward was a young teen, she made up her mind to be a missionary in China, but she couldn't pass the missionary society's examinations. So she decided she would get to China all by herself, & she worked as a maid until she had saved up enough money to pay for the long journey.

In 1930 she set off for China. Gladys was very determined; she was not the sort of person to be put off by difficulties, & there were plenty of difficulties & dangers in China, for there was a war, & the Japanese had invaded the country.

Gladys loved China & the Chinese, & she was soon helping the Chinese in every way she could. The Japanese soldiers were all over northern China where she worked, but it was some time before they realised that the small English woman in Chinese clothes, who travelled from one mission to another, was working as a spy for the Chinese army. At last, however, they suspected her, & some Japanese soldiers were sent to capture her at the mission house where she was staying.

Gladys only just managed to escape. As the Japanese pounded on the front gate, she escaped out the back & ran into the graveyard. Japanese soldiers saw

her, & at once she felt a bullet in her back through the thick, padded Chinese coat she was wearing. She fell, but finding that she was not too badly wounded, she managed to wiggle out of the coat & into a deep ditch, leaving the coat on the ground. The soldiers, thinking she was still in the coat, shot at it again & then left her, as they thought, dead on the ground.

As soon as it was dark, Gladys got away to a village in the mountains where she had made her home, & where she had collected a hundred orphan children whose parents had been killed by the Japanese. Now she decided she must take them away to Sian in the west of China, where there was no war, & where there were people who would care for them all. To stay where they were was certain death; but Sian was hundreds of miles away, across steep mountains & beyond the great Yellow River. They would have to walk all the way, keeping to difficult secret paths so as to avoid the Japanese. How would it be possible for small children to walk so far, & how would they get food on the journey? It seemed a crazy & impossible thing to do, but Gladys could see no other way. "God will provide", she said. To the children she simply said, "Tomorrow we're going for a long, long walk across the mountains."

They started at dawn. Most of the children were between 4 & 8 years old, but there were twenty-seven bigger boys & girls, the oldest being 15. Each child carried a blanket & a bowl for food. They started off with two great baskets of grain & two men to carry it for the first part of the journey, & Gladys carried an iron pot in which she made a sort of porridge. The children started off in high spirits shouting, "We can walk for ever & ever!" as they ran on ahead up the mountain path.

The first night they slept in a village temple, tired after their long walk. But then their difficulties started. The very little ones got tired & the older boys had to take turns carrying them. The path over the barren, rocky mountains was so

difficult that the older children had to lift the little ones up & down the steepest places, & often they cried with exhaustion. Their shoes wore out & their feet were torn & bleeding. There was no shelter for the nights, & they lay huddled together in the chilly morning mists. Although Gladys ate hardly anything herself, the food ran out, & it was difficult even to find water. But whenever the path was level, they kept up their spirits by singing the hymns Gladys had taught them.

Then one day they suddenly saw soldiers ahead. They flung themselves behind the nearest rocks to hide, until they realised they were Chinese soldiers. The soldiers took pity on them & gave the children food.

They struggled on for 12 more long & difficult days, & then they came to the edge of the hills & saw the Yellow River stretching below them. Thankfully they ran down to its banks; but the river was very wide, & how were they to cross it? For three days they camped by the river, scavenging for food & praying for a miracle. Gladys would not let the children despair, but encouraged them to sing again. This saved them, for some Chinese soldiers with a boat heard their voices, came to their help & ferried them all across the river.

The worst of their journey was now over. There were still many miles to go, but they were easier miles. People gave them food & they got several lifts on trains. One night they travelled on a goods train amongst the coal. The children laughed when they awoke to find themselves black, but Gladys knew that, while they were asleep, the train had run very close to Japanese guns which might have blown them to pieces. The Lord had kept them safe even as they travelled in the midst of their enemies!

All this long journey Gladys had kept the children going by her courage, faith & high spirits. She had carried the little ones, given the children what food there was, faced every danger & difficulty & paid no attention to the wound in her back which had never properly healed. Now, after nearly two months, the Lord had

delivered them safely to their destination through what had seemed an impossible journey! "The Angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, & delivereth them."--Psa.34:7. He hath not failed in one of all His good promises! PTL!

(Editor's Note: For a beautiful & touching dramatisation of the story of Gladys Aylward, see the movie "The Inn of 6th Happiness" starring Ingrid Bergman.)

Gopi Nath Nandi

Born: 1807, Calcutta, India.

Died: March 16, 1861, India.

Indian Presbyterian minister. Gopi Nath Nandi entered the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland's Institution at its 1830 opening, and was influenced by Alexander Duff's lectures. After being baptized, he and British missionary Daniel Corrie went to Futtehpur and started a school for orphans. He was later licensed as an evangelist and then ordained. He developed a wide-ranging ministry, including superintending village schools, running a jail ministry and going from place to place preaching, commonly called itinerating. His bungalow was a meeting place for Christians of all denominations. He and his wife underwent persecution in the Sepoy Mutiny, when Indian soldiers rebelled against British rule in 1857–58, but he stood firm for his faith, even though some of his British friends were killed.

(Gopi Nath:) We stood firm for Christ in the face of persecution. The native Christians were eventually accepted in the community. God had His way. You

probably won't face such extreme persecution, but you will face problems and difficulties that will make you feel like giving up. Don't. Even if you think it's the end, it isn't, because God needs you to carry His message. Persecution was not easy to go through, but eventually I saw that I had benefited from those rough times. I became closer to the Lord, more dependent on following what I felt He wanted me to do. Instead of crushing my faith, adversity helped to settle my faith and gave me more confidence in His Word.

Gordon Hall

Born: April 8, 1784, Tolland, Massachusetts.

Died: March 20, 1826, Bombay, India, at age 42.

First American missionary to Bombay, India. He was one of the first missionaries sent out by the ABCFM (American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions). Hall was converted at Williams College the same year he graduated (1808), and was ordained to be a missionary (1812). He sailed to Bombay in 1812. He married Margaret Lewis on December 19, 1816. Hall served in India for 13 years, where he labored with great diligence and success. After two children died, Mrs. Hall and two sons returned to America in 1825. Just before he died at age 42 from cholera that he had contracted as he ministered to stricken natives, he completed the revision of the New Testament in Maratha. He evangelized, provided medical services, opened 35 schools, and distributed literature.

(Gordon:) I gave my life for the people I ministered to, and though my personal life was fraught with pain and tragedy, yet I stayed true to the purposes in my heart. Though at times my personal life fell apart, I found that I wasn't

called primarily for a personal life; I was called to reach those who needed Jesus. I admire those of you who are doing the same, who, in the midst of tragedy, lift your heads above the waters and start swimming again toward your goals. “’Tis only one life, ’twill soon be past; only what’s done for Christ will last.” You will not be disappointed.

I had an understanding that my life and ministry would be short; therefore I knew I had to work hard and give it all that I could in order to provide people with the Word in their language and a foundation of faith. I’m so thankful that I did, because when I realized that I would probably die from sickness, I was at peace, knowing that I had done what I could. I was comforted by the many converts who visited my sickbed, prayed prayers of faith, and encouraged me with the Word of God. They were worth the hardships, and their faith in the Lord made it easy for me to leave the work to them while I came home to Jesus.

Grace Woodman Haight

Born: September 22, 1863, Springfield, Massachusetts.

Died: August 9, 1955, Greenville, South Carolina, at the age of 92.

Independent missionary in China for 30 years, and then a boat missionary on the Nile River, Egypt. Haight was an associate editor of the *Southern Missionary Journal*. In 1930, at the age of 67, she became a professor in missions and hymnology at Bob Jones College. Haight authored many poems and children's books.

(*Grace:*) The sky is the limit! I loved my work in China. It was rough and tough, and I was glad I was young at the time. When I went back to the United States after more than 30 years abroad, I wondered what awaited me and how I would serve the Lord. Then I began a wonderful life of writing poetry and children's books. I became as a little child again. Using the vast experience and faith I had gained, I launched out into a new mission field of written words to reach the children of the world. There is always a place, a ministry that the Lord will open up to you, no matter what your age or physical abilities. God is able to use you to reach His lost children. Keep your eyes open. Keep knocking on the doors of opportunity. Keep praying! You'll find the field of harvest that He has waiting for you.

Hans Egede

Born: Jan 31, 1686, Harstad, Senjen Isle, Norway.

Died: November 5, 1758, Stubbekobing, Falster Isle, Denmark.

Norwegian Lutheran minister and missionary who was the first Protestant to preach the Gospel to the Eskimos of Greenland as part of a group of 46, which included some of Egede's family. Early in his ministry he pastored in Vagan, Lofoten Islands, 1706–19. Egede arrived in Greenland on July 3, 1721, with the support of the Danish government, founding the colony of Godthaab. His wife, Giertrud, died in 1735. He saw many converts, until his ill health compelled him to return to Copenhagen in 1736. There in Copenhagen, he founded a seminary to train missionaries for the work in Greenland. In 1740, he became superintendent of the Greenland Mission and bishop of Greenland. His son, Paul (1708–1789), translated the New Testament into the Greenlandic language.

(Jesus:) Launching into a place where no one has ever heard the Gospel takes a lot of guts and faith. That's what makes those like Hans Egede excellent, well-seasoned helpers for the Family. To a missionary, the impossible just takes a little longer.

(Hans:) It took years before we could rouse interest in our evangelization efforts and gain support from home. Eventually we persuaded one merchant to invest in our work. This meant more laborers and more material. I had a lot to learn in order to know how to minister to the Eskimos. I studied whaling, shipping, fishing, and communicated with anyone who had ever worked in the area. I couldn't speak their language at first, and had to use sign language to let

the locals know that I was there to stay. My family and I lived in skin tents like the locals part of the year, and my children wore animal-hide clothes like the other children. We had a lot of adjusting to do. We studied the language, which my kids picked up more quickly than I did. When smallpox came to the island, I cared for the sick. This was a turning point in my being accepted by the locals, who began to call me the “Apostle of Greenland.” They looked at me with more respect, and I believe that our care of the sick went further than any of my sermons did at first. It took time for me to find my footing, to learn what I needed to learn, but eventually I won their hearts, and they won mine.

Hans N. Hauge

Born: April 3, 1771, Thun, Norway.

Died: March 29, 1824, Bredtvedt, Norway.

Lutheranism was born of Martin Luther’s mighty zeal in the 1500s, but a century later it had sunk into cold and weary formalism. In the 1600s, God raised up other giants to rekindle the flames and extend the Reformation into a new phase. P. J. Spener, burdened for his church, opened his home for prayer and Bible reading. That simple act sparked a spiritual renewal across Germany, since called Pietism. The Pietist movement swept over continental Europe, emphasizing inner spirituality, home meetings, mission involvement, hymn singing, and social work (particularly with orphans).

Reaching into Scandinavia, Pietism touched 25-year-old Hans Nielsen Hauge. He became a Pietist evangelist and peasant lay preacher. He greatly influenced his nation, despite opposition from the state church. Hans had grown up in rural Norway, learning many crafts from his industrious parents. He was a skilled cabinetmaker, carpenter, blacksmith, and beekeeper. He had also known the

words of Scripture and the songs of the hymnbook since infancy.

On April 5, 1796, as he worked outdoors and sang the hymn, “Jesus, I Long for Thy Blessed Communion,” he was abruptly caught up in a dramatic experience. His heart overflowed with God’s Spirit. The love of Christ blazed in his soul. He sensed a deep hunger for Bible study and a compelling urge to proclaim the Gospel. Hans ran home and shared his experience with his family, then with his church. He then set out to tell others, traveling for eight years and 10,000 miles throughout Norway by foot, ski, and horse.

Between 1798 and 1804, he formed little brotherhoods for prayer, conversation, and exhortation, walking thousands of miles, often preaching twice a day. He preached to crowds, large and small, emphasizing repentance, conversion, and true revival. His message sparked renewal everywhere. Occasionally local pastors, fearing his zeal and popularity, opposed him, and he was arrested ten times. Hauge was twice imprisoned, 1804–11 and 1814–16, for lay preaching. But most bishops and pastors eventually thanked God for his ministry.

Hans later applied himself to commerce and became the owner of paper mills, a salt factory, a trading company, and a fleet of ships. He used his position in the business world to spread his message. He lived on his estate in Bredtvedt from 1816 on. He did much to counteract rationalism* in Norway. He passed away at age 53, using his final breaths to exhort his wife, “Follow Jesus.” He is today called the “Father of Scandinavian Pietism.”

[*Rationalism: The belief that reason and logic are the primary sources of knowledge and truth and should be relied on in searching for and testing the truth of things.]

(Jesus:) Little is much if I am in it. He was one man with faith and

determination. He continued on day in and day out, and didn't stop living and acting on his faith no matter what the Enemy threw at him. This daily faith and determination paid off in the end, and I used him to greatly influence his country and fellow men for good. He did not underestimate the power of faith and determination but lived his life in My service and fulfilled his calling and destiny.

(Hans:) I was seen as a radical and someone different in my day. I was considered a threat to the church and to those in power. When the Spirit of the Lord hit me and I got filled with the flame of His love and dedication, I couldn't hold it in. I had to pour it out on anyone I met.

Don't let the Enemy make you a lukewarm, compromising, afraid-of-anything-different Christian. Be a radical witness for the Lord, bringing new fire for this generation! Don't let the Enemy slow you down or control your fire for the Lord and His revolution.

You are going to be part of one of the greatest revivals Earth has seen. Many will seek you out for answers and for this power and fire that you possess. The Enemy will be furious and look for ways to discredit you, but in doing so he will only arouse more curiosity about you, and will turn many toward you and the answers that you hold.

I had to face many people of power and many leaders of the churches of my time and answer them about my work and what I did. When I was arrested the Lord filled me with faith, and I was never alone. I will be there to help you if you have to face those in power who oppose you. I will give you the conviction and faith that you need in those situations. I will help you to burn with the fire and flame of His revolution. You will be like rare fruit, and people will want to have a taste of what you have!

So hold on to that crown and stay the course. Things are only going to get

more exciting. The situations that you find yourself in will get more thrilling and fulfilling, as will the miracles you see.

Henry G. Appenzeller

Born: February 6, 1858, Souderton, Pennsylvania.

Died: June 11, 1902, West Coast, Korea.

Pioneer Methodist missionary to Korea. Appenzeller married Ella Dodge on December 17, 1884, went to Korea in 1885, and in 1887 founded Chongdong First Methodist Church (Bethel Chapel), Seoul, with Korean leadership. He served as pastor until his death at age 44. He founded Pai Chai Hak Dang, the first modern Western-styled school in Korea and the predecessor of present-day Pai Chai University. His daughter, Alice, was the first American child ever born in Korea. He helped to translate the Bible into Korean, opened a bookstore in 1894, wrote many tracts, and published the *Korean Christian Advocate*. Korean culture and religion were valued by him.

He died when a boat, the Kumagawa, taking him to a Bible translation meeting in Mokpo, collided with a Japanese vessel, the Kisawaga, off the western coast in a fog. He lost his life in an attempt to save his Korean translation assistant and a Korean child entrusted to his care.

(Henry:) You are no fool to give your life in love for the lost of the world. I loved the Korean people! They were fiery, passionate, and in need of Jesus. Each culture has its distinct characteristics, but they all have one common need—Jesus. I knew if I could reach the people of Korea with the written Word in their language, and humble myself to take on their culture, that my witnessing would go a lot further than if I tried to make them conform to my culture. If you love the

people of your field, learn about their culture and adapt your attitudes and mindsets to accommodate them, you'll go a lot farther in your efforts to win them to the Lord. Don't make fun of their differences or what you may perceive as inadequacies.

My wife and I raised our five children on the mission field. I traveled throughout the land on bicycle, horseback or by foot preaching the Gospel. Many of the lower class could not read, and the upper class wrote only in Chinese. I discovered that Koreans traditionally educated only their sons. I felt called to open a school to teach people to read. But first I had to learn the language, both in order to teach and to continue preaching the Gospel. This occupied about five hours daily, but eventually I could speak to the Koreans in their language, as well as help with the translation of the Bible. Eventually I opened a school. Our main "textbook" was the Bible, which the students read tirelessly.

Henry Drummond

Born: December 5, 1786, Grange, England.

Died: February 20, 1860, Albury, England.

Politician, writer, founder and “Apostle” of the Catholic Apostolic Church in 1827. Drummond was a banker (1810–13) and a Member of Parliament from West Surrey (1847–60). In 1826, about 50 people met in his Surrey home and studied Biblical prophecy, which evolved into the Catholic Apostolic Church over time. Drummond became an apostle, evangelist, and prophet of this church. He wrote from *Social Duties and Christian Principles* (1830) to *Discourses on ... the Church* (1858).

(Henry:) I became interested in prophecy, which was often a subject of discussion in my house and amongst those who came to worship and pray. I and my circle of fellow worshipers were the few who openly talked about and used prophecy. I became known as a prophet in my church, which attracted attention. That attention led to my being able to write more about prophecy to an eager audience, and to give people the opportunity to know our Lord in a personal way.

As you meet others who are interested in your message and your methods, work with them to reach the world with the truth. As you minister to them, they will minister to you, and together you can minister to many.

Henry J. Heinz

Born: October 11, 1844, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Died: May 14, 1919, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Founder of the Heinz company, known for its catchy “57 varieties,” and Sunday School enthusiast. While growing up in Sharpsburg, Pennsylvania, Heinz helped his mother in her big garden. By the time he was 12, the garden plot was 3-1/2 acres, and a career selling vegetables was on its way. The company eventually produced 126 products, and by 1867, was doing a \$100 million a year business and owned 26 food processing plants. He married Sarah Young on September 23, 1869 (died 1894). He spent 64 years promoting the Sunday School concept wherever he went. One could readily see that “pickles were a sideline” and the work of the Gospel was the main business of his life. Heinz had tickets in his pocket to go to a New York City Sunday School gathering when he died of pneumonia at the age of 75. In his will, he left over \$500,000 to Sunday School work. Heinz was a Presbyterian, but also gave to many Methodist causes.

(Jesus:) Heinz was a great man, but he wasn't too great to give to others, including children, to take time for Me, and to promote Me even more than he promoted his products. In the Offensive, you would do well to follow his example of promoting Me whenever and wherever you can. Give of your time, whether it be to your job, to projects in order to help others, or to worthy products. In all you do, promote My Spirit. The simple truth of My love is what will win a heart. Heinz can help you with the vision and love you need in order to continue to give of yourself.

Hiram Bingham, Sr.

Born: October 30 1789, Bennington, Vermont.

Died: November 11, 1869, New Haven, Connecticut.

Congregational pastor and pioneer missionary to the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii), 1819. Bingham built the first church in Honolulu in 1831, called Kawaiahao Church. He pastored, created a written language for those to whom he ministered, translated the Scriptures in 1839, and became a trusted advisor to the Hawaiian King Kamehameha III. He later pastored a black church in New Haven, Connecticut. In 1847, he wrote extensively about his experiences on the Hawaiian Islands. Bingham married Sybil Moseley (1792–1848) on October 11, 1819 (her health forced their return home in 1841) and after her death married Naomi Morse on August 24, 1854. Hiram died at age 80.

(Hiram:) There is one thing that you can be certain of, and that is that there will always be a mission field waiting for you if you are willing to acknowledge it. Hawaii was my life and my passion for many years. The need was obvious, the fruit was ripe, and the rewards were many. It took years of patiently teaching the Word of God, but we were rewarded. The chief and his favorite wife embraced Christianity and encouraged their subjects to do so, too. They taught people to follow the teachings of the Bible.

I had to leave my beloved islands because of my wife's health and return to our homeland. I could have left my heart and my love for souls back there. I could have concentrated only on my writing, but I didn't. I knew the Lord expected more of me. I saw that there was a great mission field before me in New Haven.

Never lose sight of the need to reach the lost. Wherever the Lord calls you to serve Him, the lost will always be there. There is always a mission field waiting to

be pioneered if you are willing to look around and find out how to reap the harvest.

Howell Harris

Born: January 14, 1714, Talgarth, Wales.

Died: July 21, 1773, Trevecca, Wales.

Renowned evangelist. Howell was converted on May 25, 1735, while taking communion in a church in Talghrai. Before his conversion, he was a village schoolmaster in Talgarth. After his conversion, he preached fervent evangelical sermons to Welsh miners and villagers, often in open-air gatherings. He created a storm by preaching in the fields. He later formed the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Church. By 1739, some 30 societies had been formed in South Wales, and two years later there were 300. He married Anne Williams in May 1744. Whitefield considered him a good friend, as did Wesley. Harris was frequently attacked by the Church of England. He was repeatedly assaulted by mobs, persecuted by magistrates and the clergy, and denied ordination on account of the irregularity of his methods. From 1771–73, he was confined to Trevecca.

(Jesus:) Howell is a man after My Own heart. He was viewed with disdain and disliked by the system because of his out-of-the-box methods of preaching the Gospel. His efforts were noble and he influenced many lives to accept Me. His faith and conviction and love for Me gave him the anointing to do things that were difficult. In spite of being laughed at and scorned, he accepted the challenge to be called out and chosen. He bucked the tide and continued on in the face of opposition year after year. He kept the faith in the face of mockery. Men like Howell are founding fathers of your faith, and you can proudly follow their

example.

(Howell:) Whatever I did, I did it with a passion. I was known for preaching in the open air, where many came out to “watch me burn!” But I also pursued other means of evangelism with the same fervor, whether it was through writing letters, talking to people individually or in smaller groups, as well as in my times of private prayer.

The Lord made me uncomfortable with the life I had been leading up until I was converted, and I took it upon myself to make others uncomfortable with their lives, too, in order to help them to find salvation. It was not uncommon that there would be a division among the people because of this. Some would truly find comfort and hope in the words of Jesus, and would rejoice with me; but others who were not ready for salvation at that time found nothing but discomfort and displeasure in the Lord’s words and took it upon themselves to make my life uncomfortable! So it was that I suffered much for the cause of Christ. But I did so gladly, and rejoiced with great rejoicing over this privilege—to the disdain and chagrin of my persecutors.

The Lord kept me until His purpose in my life was fulfilled. I didn’t seek conflict and trouble, but when it came to me, it was obviously persecution for righteousness’ sake, and I didn’t flinch from it or hold back from giving the truth. I dearly loved that fight—the good fight of faith—and I fought it bravely and with gusto!

*

(Howell:) The jewels you will find, the pearls of great price, are not necessarily found in the multitudes. They are hidden deep in the mine of someone’s heart, and in the depths of the ocean of an individual’s troubles. They are worth all the time, energy, sacrifice and prayers that you give in order to find them. Some of

you may preach to the multitudes and become known through the means available in your technological age. Remember to look amongst them for the worthy and wait for the witness of the Lord's Spirit. They will be of inestimable value in reaching the world for Christ.

Hsi Shengmo

Born: 1837, Shansi (Shanxi) Province, China.

Died: February 19, 1896.

Outstanding pastor, evangelist, and Confucian scholar. After receiving his education, Shengmo was a solver of problems and quarrels among the villagers where he lived. At age 30, he became an opium addict. In 1877, famine stalked the province of Shansi. Then he met missionary David Hill, who lived twelve miles away from him. Reading literature given him, he was converted in 1879. He wrote two tracts and about 60 hymns in his early Christian life. He and his colleagues started dozens of houses where opium users could receive treatment and help. In 1886, Hudson Taylor ordained him to pastor a wide area. For the last five years of their lives, he and his wife lived apart so that she could direct a needed work among women addicts. City after city was reached through their evangelism and endeavors. On a visit to D. E. Hoste (successor to Hudson Taylor), he fell unconscious. He had developed a serious heart problem, and six months later was taken to his heavenly home. Shengmo means "Demon Overcomer."

(Hsi:) Have faith to witness to the people the Lord puts in your path. If David had not witnessed to me and introduced me to God's Word, I would have missed the opportunity to change my life. Ours was not a particularly unusual meeting, nor was his a particularly outstanding witness. We met along the pathway

through the woods that led to the village. I was impressed by this foreigner's warmth and friendliness. He invited me to tea, and it was at this meeting that David explained more about Jesus. Tea time at his cottage became a regular event of my day, and as the months went by, my faith grew.

Use each opportunity the Lord presents you with as a witness in some way; give a witness to each person He brings across your path. You can't tell in just one meeting with someone what the Lord wants to do in that person's life, but if you're faithful to speak to them, or to give them a tract, or whatever the Lord shows you to do, you open the door for miracles to happen. The person standing next to you in the queue may not be a coincidence; the person seated beside you on the metro, or the person seeking shelter from the rain under the same canopy as you, may not be accidental—they're often planned by the Lord so that you can be a witness in some way. You have no idea what they're going through, but Jesus does. If you're willing to be His mouthpiece, you can start the ball rolling for whatever He wants to do—even miracles in the hearts and lives of others.

Isaac Backus

Born: January 9, 1724, Norwich, Connecticut.

Died: November 20, 1806, Middleborough, Massachusetts.

Baptist evangelist, minister, historian and champion of religious liberty in New England. Backus was converted on August 24, 1741, during the Great Awakening*. His marriage to Susannah Mason on November 29, 1749, resulted in nine children. Originally a Congregationalist, he was a New Light or Separatist minister (1748–56). In 1751 he adopted Baptist views and was baptized with his wife in the church he soon would pastor. His *Appeal to the Public for Religious Liberty* tract, circulated in 1773, influenced many people. Backus, a dedicated and fervent evangelist, made over 1,000 trips (over 68,000 miles) on horseback and preached over 10,000 sermons. He fought for religious freedom, arguing his point before the First Continental Congress in 1774. In 1833 (27 years after his death at the age of 82), religious liberty came to his region. He wrote the three-volume *A History of New England Baptists* (1777–96).

*Great Awakening: General revival of evangelical religion in the American colonies, which reached its peak in the early 1740s. Local revivals had occurred previously, inspired by the teaching of such clergymen as Jonathan Edwards. In 1739 and 1740 the English evangelist George Whitefield made extended tours along the Atlantic seaboard, attracting large crowds as he preached the necessity for sinners to be converted. Others followed his example of itinerant preaching, and many small local revivals merged into a general “great awakening.”

(Isaac:) Never underestimate the power of Scripture—His Word. Even the power of one verse can ignite a fire inside you that can't be put out. The single

Scripture “Greater is He that dwelleth in you than he that dwelleth in the world” motivated and inspired me from the time of my conversion until the end of my days. It never lost its power over me. It dared me to give my life to the last breath. It convinced me that the power of God within me was greater than all the untruths, all the pain, all the corruption, and all the chains and bondage within the world. His love and power inside me was what made me an instant witness, and I just had to share it. It was a seed of faith that grew and grew inside of me, and that’s what made me into an evangelist. It happened without me even realizing it.

The power of faith that burned inside me was no greater than what lies inside you. You may look at great men and women of times past and feel that you could never measure up, but the reality is that we were no greater than you. Inside you lies that same seed, that same potential. The secret that turned that seed of faith into a consuming fire, driving me to any lengths to share that truth, was in nurturing and treasuring that seed. I came to the striking realization of the power that was in me—a seed that could not just change a few hearts and lives, but the entire world! The more I nourished and fed and shared that seed, the greater it grew, until it consumed me and I was no longer I. That power of God inside me grew until it was no longer I that lived at all, but that power, that seed—Jesus. He was the One that lived and moved in me.

You can make history! You can change history, just as many others have done before you. You can go far and wide and reach hundreds and thousands by believing in the power of the scripture: “Nothing is impossible unto you.” If you will nourish that seed of faith in God’s power and feed that seed and not withhold it from others, that seed will grow and grow and grow and consume you until that seed reflects God’s power in your life, as it did in mine!

Jacob Daniel DeShazer

Born: November 15, 1912, Oregon.

Died: March 15, 2008, Oregon.

Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, DeShazer volunteered to join a special unit that was formed to attack Japan. After bombing Nagoya, Japan, he was forced to parachute into enemy territory in Ningpo, China. He was captured by the Japanese and spent the next 40 months as a prisoner of war, 34 of which were in solitary confinement. During his captivity he was loaned a Bible for three weeks and resolved to become a devout Christian. He began to treat his captors with respect, which resulted in the guards reacting in a similar manner. After his release, he returned to Japan as a missionary. He retired after 30 years of missionary service in Japan.

(Jacob:) You know, being a Christian is about a lot more than what you accomplish; it's about who you are. Those months in solitary helped me to face who I was, and I didn't like what I found out about myself. I found out that even though I was born into a Christian family, I wasn't thinking or living like a Christian. I had hatred in my heart for those whom I thought were my enemies. I thought I was better than them. God used my captivity to bring me to a deeper understanding of how I should treat my fellow man—with respect, decency, and as much love as I could muster.

Those were 40 terrible months, but I came out a better man for it because I learned how to live my Christian faith. When the guards would hand me some food—which was by no means a regular occurrence—with no spoon or any way to eat it, I'd say something like, "How's your family today?" If they'd leave a cup of

dirty water for me to drink, I'd resist the urge to curse them and say something to encourage them, like, "Thank you, that's very kind of you." Whenever I'd catch a glimpse of someone walking by my cell, I'd say, "Good morning, sir," or "Good night." I knew they didn't trust me at first, but after many months, they began to respond to me and to treat me kindly. That was the beginning of my missionary career.

You don't have to have a lot in order to love, and you don't have to do a lot in order to show people love and concern. Simple acts of kindness, consideration, courtesy and giving, fit the bill quite well. People will respect you in turn and be ready to listen to the deeper principles of Christianity. I highly recommend good old-fashioned consideration and respect for others as the first quality of a missionary. It'll take you further into people's lives and open more doors than you thought possible. [See also "From Pearl Harbor to Calvary," *END* 45, page 1.]

James Chalmers

Born: August 4, 1841, Ardrishaig, Scotland.

Died: April 8, 1901, Rish Point, Goaribari Island, New Guinea.

Martyred Congregational missionary to the southwest Pacific Islands. He was converted in November 1859 at a revival at Inverary, convicted by Revelation 22:17, which became his favorite verse: “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.” Chalmers married his first wife (1865), and later married a Mrs. Harrison (1888). He went to Rarotonga in the Cook Islands (1867), then to Papua New Guinea (1877), where he labored for 24 years. He established a training center at Port Moresby and saw many areas transformed. He served with the London Missionary Society and wrote at least three books about his work from 1885–95. He was well respected by many, including novelist Robert L. Stevenson, whom he met in Samoa in 1890. He often courted danger by going unarmed among savage tribes who had never seen a white man. He, Oliver Tomkins, and twelve native Christians were massacred, beheaded, and cannibalized by savages during a journey to explore new territory.

(James:) You may fear any number of things, but the fear of the Lord will overpower any of your personal fears. That’s the one fear I had, the fear of the Lord. The fear of the Lord is actually a deep love for the Lord. That love is what motivated me to be a missionary and to be willing to lay down my life for Him. If you want to have the fear of the Lord, then focus on your relationship with Him, and ask Him to help you to fall in love with Him; to love Him so completely that to disappoint Him or not do as He desires would be a dreadful recourse.

James Evans

Born: January 18, 1801, Hull, England.

Died: November 23, 1846, England.

Missionary to Canada. Evans was converted at a Methodist camp meeting. Coming to Canada in 1822, he became a teacher at L'Orignal, Lower Canada, and then at Rice Lake in Upper Canada. He married Mary Smith in 1822 and had one child. He was sent to the St. Clair Mission near Sarnia to work with the Ojibwa Indians (1834) and he worked in the Lake Superior regions (1838). In 1840, the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society designated him as general superintendent of a new mission in the Northwestern Territories, in what is now southern Manitoba, located on the north of Lake Winnipeg, where Indian tribes converged to buy and sell. From traders, he secured thin sheets of lead. He made casts of the 36 Cree symbols with melted lead, and used them as type. For ink, he mixed soot and sturgeon oil together. For paper he used birch bark from trees. Inserting them in a jack screw used for packing bales of fur, he had an improvised printing press, which he used to produce hymns and religious literature that he'd translated. Later, a press was sent to him from England. He then pressed forth to the Arctic Circle, sometimes traveling through raging blizzards at 60 degrees below zero, 90 miles a day on a sled pulled by huskies. In 1846, he was involved in the accidental death of Thomas Hassall, a trusted teacher and interpreter. He never recovered from the incident and returned to England, where he died of a heart attack at the age of 45.

(Jesus:) My dear James was a pioneer at heart, and a model for My pioneering missionaries to follow. He set his sights on new horizons in Canada, and kept going till I brought him home to his great reward. His burning desire in his

youthful years was to print My Word and educate his Indian converts, and with great ingenuity he succeeded in creating an improvised printing press from the materials he had at hand. I gave him the ideas and instructions for it, and he followed them—a plan which always works in the long run, even if you hit snags and hindrances along the way. After he had obeyed in that, I gave him something even better to publish the Word for his people—a printing press that was much more usable and productive. When he returned to England after the accidental death of his friend Thomas, He trusted Me in spite of the agony this caused him, and I used this sad event to bring him ever closer to My heart. These two men lived for Me and gained true riches in the spirit, which they are enjoying even now!

(James:) The Lord allows many of us to go through extreme heartbreak or difficulties. And even if it seems too much for you at the time, as it did for me, you can know, just as I eventually learned, that Jesus will never fail to bring beauty for ashes in some way, somehow, as you continue to trust in His love.

James J. D. Hall

Born: September 18, 1864, Greenville, Alabama.

Died: September 6, 1951, New York, New York, at the age of 87.

Hall had one of the most unique evangelistic outreaches of anyone in his generation: a telephone evangelist. Ordained Episcopalian, he became a chaplain of the Alabama state prison (1904–8), then was superintendent of Galilee Mission, Philadelphia, PA (1908–19). From 1928–37, he preached on the streets of New York City in clerical garb to hundreds of hurrying financiers. His main ministry started December 29, 1939, when someone called him and said, “Sorry, I got the wrong number.” Hall retorted, “No, you haven’t,” and witnessed to the man. Before the day’s end, 15 other people called, and soon his phone number had up to 600 calls per day, averaging 2,000 a week, and 70,000 a year. In his spare time Hall put up posters and signs all over the area, pointing people to Christ.

(James:) What I did during my time on the front lines was very similar to what you are doing now: I took command of the situation in an offensive surge that turned the tables on the Devil and set his captives free!

I really like the “everybody needs shoes” anecdote, for that captures the essence of what motivated me to get up every day and give it my best shot. There was just so much to do! Many times as I fished for men in that racing mass of lost and hurried city dwellers, running they knew not where, I’d feel like a bear in a stream full of salmon. There were so many of them! And I knew time was short. Not so much in the sense that the end of the world was near, but that people needed answers in life, they needed the Savior.

I’ll tell you, it does my heart good to see you all gearing up and building up

your momentum for this latest phase of the Great Commission. I'll be doing my best and praying my hardest to help you become the bold and brave risk-takers the Lord needs you to be—not afraid to get your feet wet or your hands dirty in order to bring the good news to the needy; not afraid to stand out from the crowd and be Jesus to the lost sheep. Nowadays it's like there's one in the fold and the ninety-and-nine are out in the wilderness!—Talk about a witnessing paradise! The opportunities are endless.

James O. Fraser

Born: August 26, 1886, London, England.

Died: September 25, 1938, Paoshan, China.

CIM (China Inland Mission) missionary to China. Despite showing great promise as a musician, Fraser followed the call of God to the remotest parts of inland China in 1908, where the Burma road crosses the mountainous borderland. Fraser labored there with the despised, neglected “Children of the Ranges,” the numerous Aboriginal tribes, and the Lisu people, who lived in the high mountains along the borders of China and Burma (Myanmar). By 1919, 60,000 believers had been baptized. He married Roxie Dymond on October 24, 1929. He died of malaria.

(James:) I learned many things in my time as a missionary in China, but two of my greatest discoveries were these:

Number one, that there was a spiritual warfare raging and the Enemy was incensed that I would dare to enter his territory and try to snatch away his prey! Well, snatch them I did, through militantly rebuking the Devil, resisting him in

the power of the spirit, and he was forced to flee. As a result, today there are thousands of Chinese souls in Heaven who escaped his snare, as well as many still upon Earth doing the Lord's work. Don't for a minute concede defeat when things don't seem to be improving or when it's taking time to see the results; the answer is coming, it's on the way. Have faith. Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.

My other discovery had to do with prayer: When you pray, believe that you have what you have asked for, because you do. The minute you ask, the answer is on the way; you have that which you have desired of Him and you can count it done. You may not see it immediately, but you can go on with your work with peace in your heart and conviction of spirit, knowing that He has heard you and will answer in His time.

Joan of Arc

(HOPE11) (Excerpts from the book, "Stories of Courage" by Cleodie MacKinnon)

"Joan of Arc has always been a great heroine & a symbol & a real role model! She was only a little peasant girl, so meek & lowly, but in the quiet she heard the voice of Thy Spirit, & You made of her a violent revolutionary who was willing to carry a sword & fight to defeat the enemies of the Lord & of the Cross! She stood in armour with the sword & fought the enemy!"-- David Berg (ML#2043:15; 180:49)

Joan of Arc was born in the little village of Domremy, France in the 15th century. Her father was a farmer, & Joan was brought up to help with all the work of the farm. She could neither read nor write--very few people could in those days--but she used to hear news of the war her country was fighting with England.

It made her very unhappy when she heard of the English winning all the battles, & she prayed earnestly to God to send France victory & courageous leaders.

The English had been fighting France for nearly one hundred years, & now they were claiming the throne because the English King Henry V had married a French princess. They had captured the city of Rheims (say "Rheems") where the French kings were always crowned, & so Charles, the rightful King, had never been crowned. He was still only Dauphin*, which means eldest son of the King & heir to the throne. (*say "daw-fin")

One day, when Joan was a young teen of 13, an extraordinary thing happened to her! She was in her father's garden when it seemed to her that she heard a voice beside her, coming from a great light. She was certain at once that it was the Archangel Michael & that he was telling her that she was the person who could save France from the English.

Joan could hardly believe that she had been chosen for such a task, but she kept on hearing these voices & seeing visions, all calling her to save her country. At last, when she was 17, she knew that it was time for her to fulfil what God was planning for her. She went to the Commander of the castle near her home & told him of her vision. "Give me a horse & armour, & send me to the Dauphin!", she boldly told the Commander. The Commander laughed.--How could a simple farmer's daughter save France? Women in those days were supposed to be weak, ignorant creatures, & the idea of a woman wearing men's clothing was shocking. But Joan spoke with such conviction & authority that the Commander believed her, & at last he did what she asked & took her to the Dauphin.

When Joan arrived at the court, she was brought into a room where the Dauphin stood, very simply dressed among his more richly-clad nobles. Yet Joan, who had never seen the Dauphin before, went straight up to him & knelt before him, saying, "God has sent me to lead your armies & take you to be crowned at

Rheims."

The Dauphin had almost given up hope of ever driving the English out of his country. Many of his own subjects were fighting against him. His soldiers were discontented & weary & he had no good Commander to lead them. He felt ready to try anything & he could not help being impressed by Joan's courage & faith-- somehow he felt he could trust her. His counsellors were much less trusting, but at last Charles decided to let Joan try to end the siege of the city of Orlans. The English had besieged the city for months, & the French were desperate! If the enemy captured Orlans, there was nothing to stop them from taking all of France.

Joan, dressed in plate armour & carrying a white banner embroidered with the French fleur de lys (lily flower), rode at the head of the army of 6,000 men. Knowing that she was sent from God, she inspired the soldiers with new hope, & they almost worshipped her. With this new hope, their hearts were filled with fresh courage. Joan was certain that the secret to victory was to always be attacking, & she led her troops against the English forts around Orlans. Although she was wounded, she fought from morning to night, cheering on her followers! At last the English panicked & fled. Joan, who knew nothing of soldiering & had hardly seen a sword herself, had succeeded where the French generals had failed. A miracle had happened!

Now the French felt sure of victory, & Joan led them from battle to battle. Within three months she stood beside the Dauphin when he was crowned Charles VII at Rheims.

Joan wanted to go ahead & drive the English right out of France, but the new King, quickly forgetting that he owed all the past miraculous victories in battle to the Lord & Joan, would not support her. The French nobles were jealous of her & so were the priests. Then some French traitors managed to capture her & handed her over to the English. The English were determined that the French should lose

faith in their wonderful leader, & accused her of being a witch & of pretending that she heard voices. They brought her to trial & they bribed a wicked Bishop to find her guilty. All this time Charles did nothing to try & save her.

Joan was kept chained in prison for many weeks & was allowed no one to help or advise her. All this time she continued to insist that the voices she heard were true & that she had been sent by the Lord to lead the French to victory. She was sentenced to be burned to death as a witch & a heretic.

Joan of Arc was burned at the stake at Rouen (say "Roo-n") on May 30th, 1431. An English soldier gave her a cross to hold made of two sticks & she died for her faith calling on the Name of Jesus!

(Ed. Note: You may want to see the movie, "Joan of Arc", starring Ingrid Bergman, which beautifully dramatises her life story.)

Johann C. Blumhardt

Born: July 16, 1805, Stuttgart, Germany.

Died: February 25, 1880, Bad Boll, Germany.

Evangelist whose preaching drew large crowds with miraculous healings. Blumhardt was a teacher at the missionary institution at Basel, 1830–38. He pastored in Mottlingen, 1838–52. He was the first healing evangelist of note. Blumhardt spent the latter part of his life, from 1852 on, at Bad Boll, near Goppingen, until his death at age 75. There, he was instrumental in developing a center for missionary work and for victims of all kinds of illnesses. He purchased the royal watering place (spa), and sufferers from all ranks of society and many countries flocked there to be cured.

(Johann:) Every day I asked the Lord to keep me humble. It was sometimes a struggle to remember that He was everything—the power, the light, the goodness—and that I was but a fragile vessel of clay. He helped me, though, and through sometimes embarrassing mistakes He would remind me that every good and perfect gift comes from above. I soon found that the best way to stay humble was to always be aware of Him near me. I would envision Him walking beside me, showing me what to do, hearing His instruction in my heart when I faced decisions. I did not have a strong gift of prophecy like you in the Family have, but when faced with a decision, passages from the Bible would come to my mind. When I was not near Him, my faith would falter. In time, He truly became my all in all.

My plan for the spa was that it would be a Christian retreat where people could be healed in body and spirit; where they could find the healing touch of our Savior from depression, divorce, illness, loss, etc. A woman whom the Lord had healed through the gift of healing that He had given to me became my assistant at the spa.

Johannes E. Gossner

Born: December 14, 1773, Hausen, Germany.

Died: March 20, 1858, Augsburg/Berlin, Germany, at the age of 85.

Minister and founder of the Gossner Foreign Missionary Society. Converted by reading spiritual books (around 1797), Gossner served in three parishes (1797–1804), then at Dirlawang in Bavaria (1804–11). From 1811–17, he was in literary work. The Catholic Church defrocked him in 1817 for his evangelical views. He pastored in St. Petersburg (Leningrad), Russia, from 1820–24. He joined the Lutheran Evangelical Church in 1826. From 1829–47, he pastored the Bethlehem Church in Berlin. In 1842, Gossner founded his society, which sent out 140 missionaries (mainly to north India). Only 16 of them had a theological education. From 1846 on, he worked with a hospital which he founded in Berlin.

(Johannes:) I was willing to be used however the Lord wanted to use me. As you can see from my biography, I didn't have one single "great life's work." I just did the Lord's business in all the places He sent me. Some of you will know early in your career where the Lord wants you to settle down and which specific calling or ministry He wants you to devote your life to; others might need to try one ministry, then another, in order to find the Lord's will and personal calling.

I want to encourage you that when you have found the Lord's plan for your life and the calling you feel is His calling, then no matter whether you serve in a ministry for a long or short period of time, your work will not be in vain. Your service and fruit will come into beautiful focus at the end of your life.

Even though the Catholic church cast me out because of my views on salvation by grace, the Lord used this experience to strengthen my faith. He asked me, "If

you believe evangelization is of Me, what are you going to do about it?” That marked the beginning of my missionary training ministry, which was what I personally considered one of my most important achievements.

John E. Clough

Born: 1836, Frewsbury, New York.

Died: November 23, 1910, Rochester, New York.

Baptist missionary to India. After his conversion from skepticism, Clough went to India in 1865 with his wife and son. In 1866, he took up residence with the Telugus, living in Ongole. This became the center of his work, ministering among the outcast Madigas in some 400 villages. His ministry started with only eight converts, but soon there were thousands. He labored to help in time of famine, 1876–78. In 1878, under his direction, 3,536 converts were baptized in three days. That same year, 9,966 members were added to the church, making 13,000 baptized members. By 1883, his ministry had 21,000 members; and by his retirement in 1901, after 40 years of work, he had 55,000 converts. He and his first wife, Harriet Sunderland, ministered together until 1893, when she died. He then married Emma Rauschenbush, retired in 1905, and stayed in India until his death in 1910 at the age of 74.

(Jesus:) John did what he needed to do, whatever the cost, in order to get the job done. He was driven and was willing to make the sacrifices necessary to make My will happen. He was a clever businessman before he came to Me, and I used his skills in planning to help him to become successful in India. He planned his work and worked his plan. A professional in his field, he stuck to the mission field and remained true, and it paid off with success.

(John:) How did our church grow from 8 to 55,000? I believe first of all that it was because I held to the Lord's job for me and didn't let the obstacles along the way stop me from carrying out what I believed was His commission. I spoke to one person at a time, or to the crowd on the platform waiting for the train, or to the family at the store. I spoke to classrooms of students, to businessmen and women, to couples, to those of other faiths who met to pray. I kept talking about the Word of God to anyone who would hear me. They in turn gave out the message, and that's how the church grew.

John Elias

Born: 1774 at Abererch, near Pwllhel, Wales.

Died: 1841 at Llanfaes, Wales.

John Elias was a Christian preacher in Wales in the first half of the 19th century, as part of the Welsh Methodist revival. He married Elizabeth Broadhead in 1799 and they enjoyed a life of sweet companionship for over 29 years, until her death on April 2, 1828. They had four children; two of them died in infancy and two survived their father. In 1830, following his second marriage, he moved to Llangefni, where he lived until the day of his death, June 8, 1841. His preaching was noted as being exceptionally powerful, "as if talking fire down from Heaven." On one occasion it is said he preached to a crowd of 10,000 people. His passion for work was intense, and he labored night and day.

(John:) One of the happiest days of my life was when I became an official preacher of the Gospel at the age of 26. I was raised by my grandfather, whose Christian values had a great influence on my young mind. I was reading the Bible

in both Welsh and English at an early age. The fact that I, as a young lad, would lead public prayer within my neighborhood was unheard of at the time. Grandfather and I would walk long distances together in order to hear the sermons at the local Methodist church. The many sermons I listened to deepened my faith and my enthusiasm to become a preacher. It was a life of sacrifice and some hardships, but I knew my calling was to speak the truth of the Word of God as I interpreted it. Not all agreed with my interpretation of the Scriptures, but once I felt that God had proven to my satisfaction that a thing was so and was truthful, I didn't hesitate to preach it to all who were willing to listen. Many came to know Christ, and many lives were influenced for the better by His Spirit.

Joseph Brant (Thayendanegea)

Born: 1742, River Banks, Ohio.

Died: November 24, 1807, Wellington Square, Ontario, Canada.

Anglican Mohawk chief. He became a Christian at Eleazer Wheelock's Moors Charity School in Lebanon, Connecticut, in 1770. Brant was a fearless military ally of Britain in the War of Independence, leading some 3,000 Indians on the Royalist side. He built the first Episcopal Church in upper Canada in 1786, after the King gave him an estate at the head of Lake Ontario while in England earlier that year. Brant was an effective missionary who helped to translate the Book of Common Prayer and the Gospel of St. Mark into the Mohawk language.

(Jesus:) Anyone can be reached with My love. If you nurture and practice that belief, you won't be intimidated by a person's status, looks, or ethnicity. It won't matter who is before you—rich or poor, famous or infamous, a president or an

Indian chief. All you'll see is a heart that needs healing, a heart that needs My love and salvation. All you'll see is the potential within that person. Brant became My emissary to his own people, a warrior who also fought for My Kingdom on Earth. There are many whose potential and destinies have not yet been discovered. They, like Brant, are destined to be missionaries, to be My voice and My heart to their people.

Koji Honda

Born: March 31, 1912, Kobe, Japan.

Died: April 6, 2002, Tokyo, Japan, at the age of 90.

Japan's greatest evangelist. Honda preached to over one million people in 40 years of ministry. He also wrote many books. As a young man, Honda shined shoes, sold Bibles, and attended Bible school. He then started a church in Kobe, where his parents found Christ. When he started evangelizing, it was nonstop. Children's crusades were held between 5 and 6 p.m., with the main meeting starting at 7 in the city's largest auditorium, continuing for eight to ten nights. At one of his last crusades in Vietnam, he preached in Japanese, someone translated into English, someone else into Vietnamese and some 600 accepted Christ. He had seven children. Many called him Japan's Billy Graham, to which Graham quipped, "I am America's Honda!"

(Jesus:) Koji just wanted people to know Me. He was a willing and yielded tool in My hands, and he didn't put any limits on how much I could use him. He would have continued shining shoes with just as much joy in his heart as he had in preaching to the multitudes if it would have helped him to win souls. He didn't

seek the praise of man. He wanted people to know My love in a personal way. Though Honda was used greatly, he was a simple man at heart. He that is greatest among you must be servant of all (Mark 10:43–44). It was his littleness in his own sight that made it possible for Me to use him in such a great way.

This is a simple biography and a simple message from a simple man, but in many cases, it is simple things and simple people who will win the Japanese—those who are filled with love and concern for others, those with no concern for face, those who go out simply believing that I will do miracles, and who are willing to simply follow My voice.

Leticia Burd Cowman

Born: March 3, 1870, Thayer, Iowa.

Died: April 17, 1960, Los Angeles, California.

President of Oriental Missionary Society, 1928–49. Leticia married Charles Cowman on June 18, 1889 (died September 25, 1924), and they went to Japan in 1901. She became a world traveler, lecturer, writer, and source of inspiration. Her devotional classics include *Streams in the Desert* (1925) and *Springs in the Valley*. *The Vision Lives* is her biography, written by Ben Pearson. Her *Streams in the Desert* books have sold over six million copies in more than twelve languages. She died at the age of 90.

(Leticia:) I loved the thrill of travel, of seeing new places and meeting new people, but the greatest lesson my travels taught me is how similar we all are. Whatever anyone's background, everyone needs Jesus, and everyone's heart is hungry for the love and acceptance that only He can give. There are always some

who will initially seem to be hungrier than others, but **those who are less receptive at first have the same need for the Savior.** *I want to help you to see the potential in every soul, especially in those in whom it isn't visible at first, and help you to nurture it until it blossoms.*

Lillian LeVesconte Dickson

Born: January 29, 1901, Prior Lake, Minnesota.

Died: January 14, 1983, Taipei, Formosa (Taiwan).

Outstanding missionary. Lillian and her husband, Jim Dickson (February 23, 1900–June 15, 1967) composed one of the greatest missionary teams ever. Lillian and Jim were married on May 16, 1927. From 1927–40 and 1946–69, they spread the Gospel in Formosa. During WWII, from 1940–46, they served in British Guiana. Her life's story was so intense and powerful that it appeared in *Reader's Digest* in July 1962. Lillian was a friend to the lepers and tuberculosis sufferers, a mother to the orphaned and distressed, a teacher of the aborigines, counselor to native children in prison, helping hand to the blind and deaf, angel of mercy to those in her bamboo clinics, and an accordionist at the outdoor meetings. Formosans called her “the littlest lady with the biggest heart.” She wrote *These My People*, 1958. She died at the age of 82. Jim was the principal of the Taiwan Theological College for over 30 years.

(*Jesus:*) Lillian's life is a testament to what a whole lot of love for Me can accomplish. Her gifts were love—for Me and others—faith, simplicity, and passion, the simplest of ingredients. She didn't have a Ph.D. or a degree in

theology. She didn't go to seminary and graduate as an ordained minister of the Gospel. She simply loved Me, and from that love was compelled to go out and love others and preach the Gospel to every creature.

It's easy to overcomplicate your mission of reaching the world (and, of course, the world today is a lot more complex than it used to be), but you should never underestimate the power of love, faith, and passion—words you're so familiar with that they have almost lost their meaning, yet words that hold so much power and truth. With love and faith you can go anywhere and do anything. Even if you were stripped of everything you own, everything that defines you, all your talent and your knowledge of My Word, if all you had left was your love for Me and a passionate faith fueled by that love for Me; if those two simple elements consumed your entire life, you would still have more than enough to be an outstanding witness and a great missionary.

Mabel Francis

Born: July 26, 1880, New Hampshire.

Died: June 7, 1975, Fort Meyers, Florida.

Missionary in Japan for 59 years. Mabel began teaching school at age 15 and left for Japan in 1909 as part of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. She served as an evangelist and church planter, starting 20 CMA churches. She was known as the American woman, always smiling, who rode a bicycle. Mabel was awarded Japan's highest civilian honor and was invited to speak at official functions. During WWII, she lived in a Catholic monastery for safekeeping. She retired to the U.S. in 1966 at age 86. She died at age 95.

(Mabel Francis:) Early in my life I learned the secret that kept me going,

which was resting in the Lord and allowing Him to run my life. This is why I was happy and full of joy. I had so much joy in my service. I loved teaching and evangelizing. His joy was part of my testimony and witness. I take no credit for it, because Jesus placed the joy in me. My life wasn't easy and I had to make many sacrifices, but I learned to see the good and dwell on the positive in the situations I faced. When others see His joy and happiness in you, it makes them want what you have and it sparks their interest. Everyone wants to be happy! You can witness without even saying a word, just through your actions and your happy spirit. This is made possible when you rest in the Lord and receive that happiness from Him.

Nicholas J. Holmes

Born: September 9, 1847, near Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Died: December 17, 1919, Greenville, South Carolina.

Founder and first president of Holmes College of the Bible, Greenville, South Carolina, 1898–1919. Holmes was converted in 1863 in a meeting conducted by his father and W. P. Jacobs. He married Lucy Simpson on September 29, 1876. He was a lawyer for about 14 years prior to entering the ministry. In 1898, he made plans to open a school with the motto “Live for Others.” He and his wife invited some other like-thinking men to join them for a ten-day Bible study. The school that resulted eventually became a Bible college.

(Nicholas:) God wanted to use me, even though it was done differently than others expected. First, He put a desire in my heart to study and to become a lawyer. Wrestling with words, getting decisions, persuading minds and hearts—it was all preparation for another type of legal work: being a lawyer for God! I did

not become a full-time missionary, but I knew my life was being led by His great will. Who can deny the call of God when it sounds in your heart? I could not! So I followed through on the plans I felt led to make. And while some of what I did was different or unexpected, it served its purpose of reaching those targeted individuals whom God wanted to reach, and of furthering His work. When God has revealed His plan, who are we to question His ability by asking, “How?” When God directs another’s path, who are we to question, “Why?”

Oscar Ahnfelt

Born: May 31, 1813, Gullarp, Sweden.

Died: October 22, 1882, Karlshamn, Sweden.

Sweden’s spiritual troubadour (wandering singer). Ahnfelt was an evangelical Lutheran Pietist* lay preacher, hymn writer, and guitarist who began to travel as an evangelist, using both music and preaching to minister to those assembled. He composed or arranged the music for all of fellow Pietist Lina Sandell-Berg’s hymns, singing them throughout Scandinavia. She wrote that Ahnfelt had sung her songs into the hearts of the people.

The state church opposed pietistic hymns and tried to silence Ahnfelt by forcing him to sing before King Karl (Charles) XV (reigned 1859–72).

Following is an excerpt of the song that Oscar sang to King Karl XV. The king reportedly listened with moist eyes. When Ahnfelt had finished, King Karl gripped his hand and exclaimed, “You may sing as much as you desire in both of my kingdoms [Sweden and Norway].”

Who knocks upon your heart’s door this peaceful eve?

Who brings to the wounded and sore the balm that can heal and relieve?
Your heart is still restless; it finds no peace in Earth's pleasures.
Your soul is still yearning; it seeks release to rise to the heavenly treasures.

Jenny Lind, a Pietist known as the Swedish Nightingale, provided financial assistance for his hymnbook and introduced his arrangements of the Sandell hymns to America. Ahnfelt is well known for composing music for the hymns "Day by Day" (1865) and "The Sign of the Cross."

*(Pietism: A German Protestant movement in the 17th and 18th centuries that changed the focus of Lutheranism from ritual and church government to personal piety [devotion]. It was founded by Philipp Jakob Spener.)

(Jesus:) Music is a magical medium and tool that can unlock the heart of man and open doors in order to win the world. Never underestimate the power of music.

Oscar used music to reach the world of his day. His songs have helped to open the hearts of many. He and his music were so effective because he opened his heart fully to Me and expressed his praise and love. Praise is indeed powerful, and Oscar's story is a testament to that fact. His songs were inspired by his personal times of communion with Me, and I in turn inspired and motivated him to share these songs with others. At first it was a little embarrassing for him. He had to be willing to be a fool for Me, in a sense, but he was willing, and through his songs he helped to change the world of his day. It all started in that quiet time of devotion that he spent with Me.

(Oscar:) It takes both good lyrics and good music to make a good song. I loved to write music. I could hear melodies almost all day long. But I could not always

write captivating lyrics. Lina wrote beautiful lyrics. She said the people listened to her songs because the music I wrote captured their spirits. And all of this was done on my homemade guitar.

Music can open doors and speak to the hearts of the influential. It can reach their hearts.

Oswald Chambers

Born: June 24, 1874, Aberdeen, Scotland.

Died: November 15, 1917, Zeiton, Egypt.

Bible teacher and evangelical mystic. The son of a Baptist pastor, Chambers was converted as a result of Charles Spurgeon's preaching. From 1906, he toured the world, preaching among Methodist and Pentecostal Holiness groups. He married Gertrude Hobbs in 1910, then served as the principal of a Bible-training college at Clampham Common, London, 1911–15. From 1915–17, Chambers was the superintendent of the YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) huts in Egypt, a minister among military personnel in desert camps. He died while working with a YMCA chaplain among troops. His *My Utmost for His Highest* (1927), published after his death, is a well-known devotional book, used by millions. His favorite Bible verse was Luke 11:13: "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?"

(*Oswald:*) They called me a "mystic," but that was because having a deep, personal relationship with the Lord was not something that was preached or advocated in my day. I credit Spurgeon for nurturing that desire within me, for in

my observations of him, I saw that he had something I wanted. From his example and preaching, I could see a deep, assured connection with our precious Savior.

You don't always realize the riches you have in the training and guidance you've been given. Oh, what I would have given for the training, for the Word, for the opportunities you have nowadays! I had a hunger in me that could not be quenched—that of knowing and loving our Savior as deeply and intimately as possible. I had a deep desire to connect with Jesus, to hear from Him, and to listen to His whispers. This is why I was considered a “mystic,” because I was sensitive to the Lord and His voice, and I was not ashamed of it, even if I didn't always understand it myself.

So I encourage you to continue to strive to connect with your Lord and Savior. It takes effort, and it's not always easy. If you feel your connection is weak, work to strengthen it. If you are comfortable with where you are in your relationship with Jesus and don't see any need for continued growth, recognize this as a warning sign and stir yourself up to grow deeper in your love for Him. It's needed now, and will be even more needed in the days to come. Don't neglect this very important aspect of your discipleship. Take it from me, it makes your life even more fruitful, inspiring, and exciting when you know you have connected and bonded with the One Who means everything!

Paul Carlson

Born: March 31, 1928, Culver City, California.

Died: November 24, 1964, Stanleyville, Belgian Congo.

Missionary martyr in the Congo. Raised in a Christian home, Carlson was interested in missions as a teen. After his marriage to Lois Lindblaw on September 16, 1950, they went to the Congo in 1961, and served as Evangelical Covenant medical missionaries. Beginning in 1962 in remote Wasolo, they saw 200 patients a day. The U.S. Air Force dropped 600 Belgian paratroopers into Stanleyville to rescue white hostages (of which he was one) held captive by Simba soldiers (Congolese rebels). Some 80 white hostages were slain by the rebels during the rescue attempt, including Carlson, who was 36 years old at the time of his death.

(Jesus:) This is a man who had a deep love and trust in Me. He knew that no matter what, I would take care of him, that I would be his shield and protector. It might seem like it was a defeat for him to have died a martyr, but in My eyes it was a victory. It was a victory because he died serving Me and giving Me his last breath. It was a victory because it was a witness to the locals that he would lay down his life in order to take care of them. He could have given up and gone home when the fighting began, but he didn't. He had a heart for the people and kept working with them even to his own hurt and loss. Throughout the time he was in captivity, I was with him. Through it all he was a witness and brought many to Me. So I say again, it was a victory!

Paul Hutchens

Born: April 7, 1902, Thornton, Indiana.

Died: January 23, 1977, at the age of 75.

Writer of Christian novels. Hutchens also wrote choruses, including “On the Cross for Me.” He authored the well-known series *The Sugar Creek Gang* for juniors. Hutchens married Jane Freerks on December 20, 1924. He was a young evangelist who ministered to everyone he met, and was ordained a Baptist in 1925. In 1929 he developed tuberculosis, so he began his writing career in the Santa Clara, California, sanatorium.

(Paul:) My life was a clear example of how God gets some of His greatest victories out of seeming defeats. It was a test of faith for me when I came down with tuberculosis. I couldn’t understand why this had happened to me at a time when I felt like I was just starting my ministry for the Lord. At first I questioned, and balked, and resisted. But then, in the quiet of the sanatorium, God got through to me and helped me to yield to His plan and accept it. It was only after I yielded, putting my own will on the altar, and told the Lord to have His way with my life and service, that I received His direction for writing.

It seemed the anointing came as I started writing; it wasn’t something I felt naturally talented for. It’s like the example in the Bible where the lepers were healed “as they went” (Luke 17:12–14). They had to step out and manifest their faith that God could do it, and He came through for them. In like fashion, I had to yield my will to God and start down the path where He was directing me. As soon as I did, it was as if a spirit of writing possessed me—in a good way—taking over my mind, and the words and ideas and stories flowed from my pen.

If you feel that what God is asking you to do is not up your alley, or the venture He is putting before you is one you don't feel you have the natural talent for, take comfort in this example of my ministry and life. As you begin, as you obey, God will come through for you. But He often requires that you take the first step of faith. It's one way He proves to you that it's got to be Him and His power and anointing; it's nothing of you. Don't hesitate! Begin the journey with faith and confidence in Him. You've got His guarantees on your side. You couldn't ask for a better assurance.

Peter Cartwright

Born: September 1, 1785, Amherst County, Virginia.

Died: September 25, 1871, near Pleasant Plains, Illinois.

Methodist circuit-riding evangelist and frontier preacher who blazed a trail for 70 years through Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois, from 1803 on. Cartwright's family migrated to Logan County, Kentucky, in 1743, where he was converted at a nearby revival at a camp meeting in 1801. Nine children came from his marriage to Frances Gaines on August 18, 1808. He left Kentucky because of his distaste for slavery and went to Pleasant Plains, Illinois, in 1824 (the same year in which he was elected representative). Cartwright was re-elected, defeating a little-known lawyer (Abraham Lincoln) for the Illinois state legislature in 1832. He later ran against Abraham Lincoln for the U.S. House in 1846, but lost. Stories relate how he rebuked the actions of General Andrew Jackson, beat up rowdies, and broke up wild dances. His horseback exploits were amazing, as he braved bandits, Indian attacks, hostile backwoodsmen and the wilderness. Throughout his ministry, he baptized more than 12,000 and preached more than 15,000

times.

(Peter:) When I faced the prospect of death at an early age, I told God I would commit myself to Him and His work if He would spare me. Thus, when I was healed, I set my face like a flint to convert and baptize as many as I could to Christ. The conditions that I was living in were hard, and the circuit on horseback was tiring and rough, but none of these things could get me down. My love for Jesus and my joy in the Lord were my strength in times of temptation and pain. I would remember what the Lord had done for me, and that was more than enough to renew my vigor and give me the energy and inspiration I needed to keep going for Him. All that I went through or suffered—even the death of my youngest daughter—was bearable for the cause of My Savior. It was nothing compared to the joy and love I received when I came Home to my Maker and Lord. I would give my all again in a second if I had the chance.

Richard Allen

Born: February 14, 1760, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Died: March 26, 1831, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

First bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, 1816–31, the first independent black denomination in the United States, a denomination which he founded. Allen grew up a slave on a farm in Dover, Delaware, purchasing his freedom at 17. As a Methodist convert, he joined the church in Philadelphia and was licensed to preach; but in 1787, he founded his own church for blacks. It was called the Free African Society. In 1816 some 16 black Methodist churches expanded to found the AMEC (African Methodist Episcopal Church), the oldest African American denomination in the United States. Allen also founded a

number of schools, and was recognized by Dr. Benjamin Rush, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, for his medical services during the Black Plague in 1793, which took the lives of thousands of Philadelphians.

(Richard:) Nothing can stop you if you have God on your side! Not even the Devil and the very gates of Hell can prevail against you. With God's help, you can ride on past the Devil's roadblocks, or right over them, and any other obstacle. Faith in Jesus and His Word, a will to work, and solid conviction is all you need to become an unstoppable man or woman of God.

In the time when I grew up, there were many obstacles and barriers—things such as slavery, racial prejudices, and laws that kept good men down. Many people didn't think that these obstacles could be overcome, but that didn't stop me from believing and from trying. I knew that a God of love did not want any of His children to suffer. There were times when it looked like I had come to the end of my rope and everything was against me, but I would turn to God and remind Him of His Word—"God is no respecter of persons" (Acts 10:34). I knew that if anyone was going to help us African Americans, He would. I never stopped praying for a miracle. He did it, time and time again. If you're facing an obstacle, my friend, look to Him.

Robert A. Jaffray

Born: December 16, 1873, Toronto, Ontario.

Died: July 29, 1945, Nakassar, Celebes Islands, Indonesia.

Christian and Missionary Alliance missionary to Indonesia. Jaffray was converted at age 16 at the St. James Presbyterian Church, Toronto, by his Sunday school teacher. After being appointed a missionary to China in 1897, he served in Kwangai, South China, and carried on in continuous missionary work for 48 years until his death. He married Minnie Donner on August 7, 1900. In 1916, Jaffray opened the CMA mission work in the French colony of Annam (later Vietnam). In 1928, Jaffray started work among the Dyack headhunters in Borneo and sent Chinese missionaries to serve there. Soon 15,000 people were converted. From 1931–42, he was in Nakassar, Celebes, Indonesia, where he was arrested. During World War II, the Japanese put him in an internment camp, where he died at the age of 72, two weeks before the war ended and the prisoners were freed. Some of his last words were, “Let us keep our eyes steadily upon the goal ... Even so, come, Lord Jesus.”

(Jesus:) The most beautiful thing I can say about Jaffray is “he believed.” Just as I marveled at the centurion’s great faith, Jaffray’s faith in Me was a marvel to Me, to Heaven, and to the world. This was the key ingredient to his success. Jaffray did not believe that I was capable of failure. He did not believe that it was possible for a witness to have no effect. He believed that every single bad thing that happened could be turned around for good. It was this stubbornness that made him a tough target for the Devil, along with the faith that was his constant shield. Jaffray was not perfect, and he did have moments of doubt and weakness.

Great faith, strong faith, noble faith, is not faith that is perfect, but faith that keeps hanging on to Me even though fears or doubts are nipping at its heels. Jaffray believed, and I marveled, and was moved to do great things for him. Even his death was a release and reward—that he might receive his heavenly reward and My commendation. Jaffray believed: “It’s all about faith.” That was his life statement.

Robert Anderson

Born: 1841, Dublin, Ireland.

Died: 1918, Unknown.

Lay theologian, barrister, writer, and Bible teacher. Anderson wrote the hymn “Safe in Jehovah’s Keeping.” He was converted at age 19 through the preaching of John Hall at his church in Dublin. In 1868, he became an advisor on the Irish affairs committee to the Home Office in matters related to political crime. He served as the head of Criminal Investigation at Scotland Yard, 1888–1901. He was, perhaps, the best known Presbyterian layman evangelist of his time, as well as a Bible teacher. He was especially versed in apologetics and prophecy. He authored several books, ranging from *The Gospel and Its Ministry* (1876), to *Misunderstood Texts of the New Testament* (1916). He had two sermons on *The Fundamentals* (1910–15).

(*Robert:*) It wasn’t until I got to Heaven that I fully understood the reason for my existence on Earth. While on Earth, I was torn between what I felt was my calling, talent, and civic duty of police work—bringing to justice and punishing those who brought harm and danger to their fellow men—and preaching the

Gospel to the lost, forsaken, and broken in body and spirit.

It was a tug of war my whole life. I felt the calling of the Lord to be a preacher, but I also felt the calling to bring to justice those who committed crimes. In a sense, the two were opposites, for the Lord preached that we should love our enemies, bless them that curse us, do good to them that hate us, and pray for them which despitefully use us, and persecute us. It was a very difficult thing for me to do—to witness the heinous crimes of man against man, and to then stand in the pulpit on Sunday and preach love and forgiveness. I struggled with this all my adult life, but I am happy to say that toward the end, I found peace with my Lord. I found the balance between judging those who had wronged their fellow men, and at the same time, loving them enough to want to minister to their soul and spirit and bring them salvation.

I give this message to you because you are living in times much, much worse than the times I lived in. People are more aggressive, more angry, more ungodly than they have ever been. It takes a lot of love and patience to believe that there is any hope for mankind. But I encourage you to not lose hope. Times will continue to wax worse and worse, but the Lord's sheep are out there, amongst the heathen and ungodly. Don't let yourself be put off by someone who may outwardly appear aggressive, mean, unruly, or not receptive or open to your message. It could just mean they're hurting deeply on the inside.

All you can do is be faithful to give the witness, show the love, and then trust the Lord that He will work the miracle and bring them to Him. That's what I did, and it worked for me. In spite of my misgivings about mankind, I was able to bring many to Him through His spirit of love and forgiveness.

Robert M. Honeyman

Born: 1863, Middlebush, New Jersey.

Died: 1952, at the age of 89.

Married Anna Marie Voorhees in 1885. He was a railroad worker 1887–1890. Honeyman was director of the YMCA in Norristown, Pennsylvania, until 1914. Director of Montrose, Pennsylvania, Bible Conference, 1928–39. Half of Honeyman’s 50-year ministry was given to making the Montrose Bible Conference into a major Christian retreat in the East. He extended his influence by holding evangelistic meetings in rural areas and in small towns.

(Robert:) I love flock building; for me, there is no more satisfying work in the world. I know what it is to start out small and nurse progress along patiently, just taking little steps most of the time. You don’t usually get a big rush of adrenaline or huge thrills, but over time, the fruit is every bit as rewarding. If you were to look at each individual I worked with and size up his or her potential and contributions, none was particularly outstanding. But as they grew in faith and began to bear fruit themselves, their cumulative effect was great. Each one knew that they could depend on me, and that what they were investing in and becoming a part of was big, and worth whatever they could put into it. And over time we made quite a dent in the world! We truly changed it for good. You can do it too. You’ve got the tools, you’ve got the know-how, you’ve got the talent. The key is learning to live for others; learning to derive your satisfaction from seeing them make progress and discoveries and have breakthroughs and joy in the Lord—seeing them thrive. The joy and satisfaction you get from that is the best!

Rowland Hill

Born: August 23, 1744, Hawkstone Park, England.

Died: April 11, 1833, London, England, at the age of 89.

Outstanding evangelist of the Church of England; a powerful and witty preacher. He was curate at Kingston in 1773. He did mission trips to India and Scotland, always attracting large crowds. His evangelism endeavors spanned ten years. Hill had a large inheritance, making it possible for him to build Surrey Chapel, London, in 1783, where he preached to large audiences until shortly before his death. He taught 3,000 children in 13 Sunday schools. His chief work was *Village Dialogues* (1810). He died saying, “And when I’m to die, ‘Receive me,’ I’ll cry; for Jesus hath loved me, I cannot tell why.”

(Rowland:) The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life. I felt compelled to save as many people as I could for the Lord—to save them from a life of sin and death, to a life of eternal happiness and love through salvation. Jesus is the answer and the only thing that can take people’s burdens and weights away. Many walk around carrying the weights and sins of life and don’t know what to do about it and how to be relieved. The answer is so simple and easy: it’s in receiving Jesus and letting Him cast off each weight. I wanted everyone, everywhere, to have this answer and to be able to feel their weights being lifted as they came to know our Savior. I never grew tired of telling people about Jesus; it was what I lived for and what gave me great satisfaction.

Samuel Gobat

Born: January 26, 1799, Cremines, Switzerland.

Died: May 11, 1879, Jerusalem, at the age of 80.

Missionary to Abyssinia (Ethiopia). Gobat visited Paris and London (1823) to learn Arabic, Ethiopic, and Amharic, and was then sent by the London Missionary Society to the field (1826). Gobat ministered in Egypt and Syria, but jumped at the opportunity to go to Abyssinia when it opened to missionaries. While he was there from 1830–39, he translated the Bible into Arabic. From 1839–46, he lived in Malta, where he printed the Arabic Bible. He married Maria Zellerin in 1833/34. In 1845, Gobat, a Lutheran up to this time, was ordained in the Anglican Church. In 1846 he became the bishop of Jerusalem and founded schools and hospitals throughout the region. He left behind 12 churches and 37 Palestinian schools, with a combined enrollment of 1,400 students.

(Jesus:) There was, at that time, a great hunger for the truth in the countries where I sent Samuel Gobat. One of the things that made him useful in so many ways was his willingness to apply himself to diligently study the language and culture of the Middle East. He was willing to put many painstaking hours into researching, learning, asking questions and getting to know the people to whom I sent him. Sometimes I led him to a public ministry; at other times I led him to work quietly, translating. In all of this, his faith in My strength being sufficient for him was the secret to his success.

Selina Shirley Hastings

(Mrs. Theophilus Hastings, Lady Huntingdon)

Born: August 24, 1707, Stanton Harold, England.

Died: June 17, 1791, London, England.

Methodist, Calvinist philanthropist. Selina married Thomas Hastings, Earl of Huntingdon, in June of 1728, and they had six children. She was converted, after her marriage, as a result of an almost fatal illness and by the witness of her sister-in-law, Margaret Hastings. The first Methodist conference was held at her house in 1744. Selina embraced Calvinism after correspondence with Howell Harris, which shifted her support from Wesley to Whitefield. Upon her husband's death in 1746, she devoted herself to spreading Whitefield's message, considering him her private chaplain.

Through her social position she was able to bring Whitefield into contact with men of the upper classes. She founded schools for clergy (including the seminary at Trevecca, Wales, in 1768), built 64 chapels, and supported them. She also wrote hymns. After eight months of illness she died at the age of 84. She whispered, "I shall go to my Father tonight." Her favorite Bible verse was 1 Corinthians 3:11: "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." She is buried at St. Helen's Church, Leicester, England.

(Selina:) Jesus gave me a purpose and reason to live—something greater than myself to give my life, my money, and my time to. There are many like me who are being prepared by Jesus for you to meet, who are willing to be a support to you and your work. Through sickness and loss I was drawn into the arms of Jesus; I found that He was the only one who could really help and save me, and I wanted

to share that with as many as possible. I never became a graduate missionary or evangelist, but through my support, many doors were opened and many were reached. I tried to be a touch of God's love to anyone I could, through my prayers and through the Scriptures. I knew that God had saved my life and that I was supposed to be a witness of His love to others. My testimony was similar to that of others you've probably heard about—a life changed due to the intervention of God. I felt blessed to be given a second chance, and was determined to use my life to help others find peace and truth in Jesus. You don't have to have a great healing or deliverance in order to be used of God; you just have to be willing.

Sheldon Jackson,

“Apostle to Alaska”

Born: May 18, 1834, Minaville, New York.

Died: May 2, 1909, Asheville, North Carolina.

Presbyterian frontier missionary pioneer in Alaska. Jackson married Mary Voorhees on May 18, 1858. From 1859–69, he was a home missionary in Wisconsin and Minnesota. In 1869, he became the missionary superintendent in six Rocky Mountain states, opening several schools and churches. He first went to Alaska in 1877 as a government employee, to open schools. He then became superintendent of missions in Sitka, Alaska, to evangelize the people living in those vast, remote, frozen stretches of the north, which he did for 23 years, from 1884–1907. He died at the age of 75.

(Jesus:) Sheldon Jackson is an excellent example of working within the system in order to get My will done. His secret was that he was willing to take an

uncharted path, see its potential, and persuade the government and companies to back him. He put his money where his mouth was and worked tirelessly for the betterment of the people he served. He was a social missionary, and as he worked to make people's lives better, he was able to share his faith with them, as well as with those he collaborated with. He is an excellent example of someone who took advantage of the open doors set before him in order to make progress and accomplish My will.

Thomas Crosby

Born: 1840, Pickering, England.

Died: January 13, 1914.

Methodist missionary to the Indians on the Pacific Coast of Canada, who greatly inspired Oswald J. Smith. Crosby came to Canada (1856) and began teaching in the Indian school at Nanaimo, British Columbia (1863). He married Emma Douse in 1874 and moved to Port Simpson, BC. For 50 years he ministered to the tribes off the Pacific Coast by walking or canoeing, summer and winter, especially in British Columbia. Crosby was the first Methodist to include medical work in Canadian missions.

(Thomas:) When you really love someone with the love of the Lord, you want to bear their burdens, share their heartaches and trials, and give them help, hope, love, comfort, and all that the Lord has given to you. To meet their needs in this way, you have to know what their needs are.

I tried to become one with the Indians: living the way they lived, eating the foods they ate, traveling in the way they traveled, undergoing the hardships that they endured. It was a rough life, but what a wonderful payoff I had. The Indians

knew that I loved them, so I was able to show them how much Jesus loved them as well.

Share your lives all the way, fellow soldiers of the cross, and you'll gain entrance to many hearts that way. Fifty years on the mission field might seem like a long time, but it wasn't a day too long or too short.

Titus Coan

Born: February 1, 1801, Killingsworth, Connecticut.

Died: December 1, 1882, Hilo, Hawaii.

Missionary to Hawaii. Coan was converted in a revival in western New York. He began his missionary trek in 1833, when he sailed to Patagonia, a barren region at the tip of South America between the Andes Mountains and the Atlantic Ocean. His main burden, however, was for the people of Hawaii, whom he served for almost 50 years (1835–82) until his death at age 81—with only a brief visit to the States (1871–72). Coan was fluent in the native dialects and preached with mighty power, which resulted in great revivals. He received 7,382 into his church in the city of Hilo on the largest of the Hawaiian islands. By 1860, his church included 11,960 members.

(Jesus:) Titus is a good example of one of My modern apostles. He took the message wherever he went and shared it with everyone till his death. His dying breath spoke of Me, as did his life. His secret was in never letting go of the burning desire he had to see all of Hawaii saved for Me. He had a big vision and kept that vision before him. Everything he did was toward the realization of his mission. Every convert brought him a step closer to the goal. Every obstacle was a stepping stone that brought him closer to his target. When he entered Heaven, as

the throngs surrounded him, he saw his vision realized in a way he never had on Earth, even though he is generally considered one of the “successful” missionaries.

(Titus:) The beautiful people of Hawaii were easy to love with God’s love. Of course, other missionaries didn’t always think so, but it’s all in your attitude toward the work God has given you. If you know what God wants you to do, then you can learn to love it and everything about it. Even the obstacles will be easier to overcome. I loved teaching the Hawaiians about Jesus. They were hungry, and I made the Gospel interesting by telling them stories, drawing pictures, and singing songs. They learned well and put the stories to music and dance and helped to spread the message to their neighbors. If you’ve found your place of service, like I did, it won’t matter what age you are, because age has nothing to do with how greatly God will use you. I consider that many of my best achievements came when I was older.

Wandaro Dabaro

Born: 1910, Wolaitta, Ethiopia.

Died: 1991, Ethiopia.

Evangelist of Ethiopia. The former pagan became a great evangelist in southern Ethiopia during a time of tremendous persecution. Dabaro's father was a witch doctor on Mount Humbo, among the Wolayto people. The first missionaries reached these people in 1928. Wandaro first heard the Gospel in 1930, was converted, and baptized.

The Italians seized Addis Ababa on May 5, 1936, and the emperor fled. The next year all missionaries were expelled, leaving only 48 believers in the country. The Italians were defeated in 1941 and the missionaries returned the following year to find 10,000 Christians and 100 churches—much of it a result of Dabaro's leadership. By 1943, the number had grown to 15,000. Wandaro had suffered much (torture, threats, etc.). The church was again persecuted under the communist regime, between 1974 and 1991.

(Wandaro:) I have to give the credit to our Lord, Jesus Christ, for the many souls that were converted. One quality I would say I had was perseverance; I didn't give up, and I witnessed to whomever I could. Even if they rejected me, I didn't give up on them. I put them on my prayer list and dedicated time each day to prayer for them. I also kept witnessing to them until they received the Lord or I felt that I had delivered my soul. My perseverance and faithful witnessing paid off, but it wasn't without its struggles. Not everyone was anxious to hear me tell them of the great life they could have if they would believe in the Lord.

My success was also due to the fact that I believed in teaching others to witness,

because I knew I could not do the job by myself. As people joined our mission, I would use their talents to help us to get organized and spread the message even further. The end results, as you see, were amazing, but this couldn't have happened without perseverance, being an instant witness, and training others.

You can have this type of success as you persevere in your witness to those you meet, commit to prayer those whom you weren't able to lead to the Lord right away, and train those you can to help you. I guarantee you that you won't lose if you don't give up the fight.

Wilfred T. Grenfell

Born: February 28, 1865, Parkgate, England.

Died: October 9, 1940, Charlotte, Vermont, at age 75.

Grenfell ministered to 2,000 whites and 5,000 Eskimos in Labrador, Canada. He was converted at a Moody crusade in 1885 in London. He began his 40-year ministry in Labrador (1892) after joining the Royal National Mission to Fishermen (1889). He served as an evangelist and a skilled physician, founding five hospitals, seven nursing clinics, three orphanages, and even cooperative stores, local industries, fox farms, schools, and recreational facilities. He also operated medical ships. Grenfell escaped death several times in harrowing ventures to remote communities. He married Anne MacClanahan on November 18, 1907.

(Jesus:) I gave Wilfred a burden and desire to reach a certain demographic, and he stayed true to the calling I gave him, pouring his heart, mind, and entire being into it. He was known for his dedication. Dedication is an important quality to have in this winning Offensive. You have to be willing to focus on the things I

ask of you. That's what Wilfred did. He focused on his field, and when he tried to reach it from one angle and it didn't work, he attempted another and another. He didn't walk away from it and figure he should go somewhere else. He kept tackling it, using any idea I showed him and any opportunity I provided to reach the people. There is much to be said for dedication and focus.

(Wilfred:) When you go to such needy fields, there are opportunities everywhere. Every level of society has needs. All you need in order to help people is perseverance, faith, and time. I had told the Lord that I wanted to do something different with my life. I didn't want to preach to one local congregation. I wanted my ministry to be something that no one else wanted to do. He gave me a vision for Labrador, and it was perfect for a man of my nature.

Wilfrid Barbrooke Grubb

Born: 1865, Liberton, Scotland.

Died: 1930.

Anglican missionary to Paraguay. At age 19, Grubb applied to the South American Missionary Society; at age 21, he went to Keppel Island in the West Falklands to work among the Indians there, where he remained for nearly four years. In 1889, Grubb began a pioneer work among the Indians of Paraguayan Chaco. It was several years before the Indians had confidence in him and he saw his first convert. They called him "Peacemaker of the Indians." For 20 years, from 1889–1909, he traveled by horse 15 miles a day, ministering to the Indians in remote areas of Argentina and Bolivia. In 1898, he married May Bridges. He returned to England in 1911, in poor health.

(*Wilfrid:*) Missionaries and explorers alike suffered greatly in order to reach the four corners of the earth during the past centuries. It was a much different world back then. Now almost every nation has heard the Word in some form or other. But there is still a great deal to do in order to reach the world with the message of today—the message that Jesus and His Spirit are alive and well and active; and that He is assertively speaking to and moving among mankind today.

God hasn't settled down and stopped speaking to people. Nor is His voice restricted to intellectual papers deciphered only by accepted authorities or intellects. He's a living, walking, talking God who rules in the hearts of those who live, walk, and talk with Him, and that's what the world needs to see and hear.

[See also ML #3702:40–47, GN 1256.]

William B. Bagby

Born: November 5, 1855, Coryelle County, Texas.

Died: August 5, 1939, Porto Alegre, Brazil.

Great pioneer Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil. Bagby was converted under the preaching of Rufus Burleson. Anne Luther became his wife on October 23, 1880. After hearing a missions challenge, they boarded a boat for South America on January 12, 1881. They were in Salvador first (1882–84), then Rio de Janeiro (1884–1900). They organized the First Baptist Church of Rio de Janeiro with four members in 1884. In 1891, he went to Campos and São Paulo (1900–29), then later to Porto Alegre (1930–39). His wife died in 1942 in Recife on her way to the U.S. Of their nine children, four died and five became missionaries to South America. Bagby left behind 694 churches and 53,000 Baptists at his death at the age of 84.

(William:) Anne and I worked very hard in Brazil, and with the Lord's help, won many to Him. Souls were won and churches were established. But it wasn't easy, and it took a lot of time, a lot of perseverance, and much sacrifice. I suffered the loss of my children, but the Lord comforted me and I was able through His grace and strength to keep fighting. I counted it all loss that I might win Christ, and win souls for His Kingdom.

You make a lot of sacrifices too—in different ways, of course—but I want to encourage you that the work you do is worth any sacrifice you may have to make along the way. You will be rewarded with abundant fruit on Earth, and when you arrive in Heaven, you will say with me that it was worth it all.

Keep your eyes on Jesus; do not watch the waves, dear friends. He will see you through the storms of life and bring you safely to this golden shore in His good time. You'll be glad you trusted Him. You'll be glad you sacrificed for Him. You'll be glad of every moment you devoted to Him and the great mission of Mark 16:15. I love you and am rooting for you!

William Goodell

Born: February 14, 1792, Templeton, Massachusetts.

Died: February 18, 1867, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Congregational missionary to the Near East, 1831–65. At age 15, Goodell walked 60 miles to Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, with his trunks on his back. Abigail Davis became his wife on Nov. 19, 1822, and they had eight children. Appointed by the ABCFM (American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions), Goodell worked in Syria, 1823–28. When all missionaries were asked to leave Syria in 1828, he went to Malta. In 1831, he founded a new mission among the Armenians of Constantinople, Turkey, where he labored until 1865. He returned to Philadelphia in 1865. Goodell translated the Bible into Armeno-Turkish (published in 1873).

(William:) I heeded the Lord’s call to “go into all the world.” There were times when I felt discouraged, when after much work I had to change ministries or move because of political situations or other problems. But when I saw the change for what it was, as from the Lord, and I knew He saw my labors as a job well done and good training for whatever He had for me next, I was able to move on and be fruitful in new endeavors which were also extremely fulfilling. I followed the Lord on some unclear paths, but in the end, the results were many souls won and pioneer efforts that have changed millions of lives. I realized that I needed to trust the Lord for each change and have faith in His will for the new steps He led me to take. As a result, He always guided me and helped me to bear fruit. At times, the steps He asked me to take required faith and what some would call “blind obedience,” but I knew that if I obeyed, He would have to take care of me and cause His work to prosper.

William Henry Collison

Born: November 12, 1847, County Armagh, Ireland.

Died: January 23, 1922, Kincolith, British Columbia, Canada.

First missionary to the Haida Indians in the Queen Charlotte Islands, British Columbia. Collison was the first to preach to the Haida and Nishga Indians in their own languages. After serving as a schoolteacher in Cork, he arrived at Metlakatla in 1873, with his wife, Marion Goodwin, an experienced nurse, who became the first white woman to live in Metlakatla. After working there, the couple established the first permanent mission to the Haida at Masset in the Queen Charlotte Islands. In 1880, he traveled up the Skeena River to open a mission church at Hazelton. In 1884, he transferred to the mission village of Kincolith on the Nass River. There he supervised the erection of a new church in 1891. Two years later, this building burned and Collison spent the winter of 1895–96 in Ireland raising money for another church, which still stands. He worked among the Nishga until his death at age 75, serving 49 years in missions altogether. His autobiography, *In the Wake of the War Canoe*, was published in 1915.

(From a Nishga Indian:) At first I really couldn't understand what Mr. Collison was doing there with us. It made little sense. My first reaction was to be suspicious of his intentions. It would have never crossed our minds to permanently leave our tribe in order to help another tribe. We were happy within our own community and defended it proudly. If we went anywhere and did anything, it was for ourselves or our loved ones.

That Mr. Collison had left his previous life behind in order to be with us made me and many others suspicious at first. But as time went by, we realized that he

had a sincere desire to help us. He truly wanted to bring us happiness and salvation. He wasn't pushy or self-righteous. He wasn't aggressive or condescending. He just wanted to help. He'd come around and do whatever he could to give us a hand, which included not just preaching, but helping the sick, comforting those who mourned, and even helping us to push our wagons and repair fences. He was there for us, and that's what made the biggest difference to our community. Once we trusted him and loved him, Jesus and salvation were a natural second step. We had never seen an example of such love, and we all wanted it. When I was approached with salvation, there was no question in my mind that I wanted and needed it.

Winnie Bonner

Born: November 14, 1919, Sylhet, East Pakistan.

Died: September 3, 1979, India.

Indian leader in Youth for Christ. Winnie was converted in 1942 in her last year of college, while alone on a hilltop. At the first YFC rally in Calcutta, India, she dedicated her life to the Lord and became YFC's secretary in 1947. In 1949, she became an evangelist. Bonner preached in many prisons in 1953. She also started Bible clubs in Delhi and Hyderabad in 1959. In 1976, she went to England to work with Asians, but returned to India for rest and treatment for health problems. Bonner was a powerful speaker with a tender heart.

(Jesus:) Tenderness and compassion are virtues that are needed by any missionary who is reaching out to others with My love. You often think of the stronger and more prominent virtues as being needed by men and women of faith and those who want to step out to really do something for Me. But it also helps to

think and meditate on the quieter and softer virtues that are needed to be My hands, eyes, feet, ears, and heart to the lost. Women are naturally more inclined this way, but men can carry these virtues in the same measure. Think of the way that I am. I'm all-powerful and strong, yet loving, merciful, and tender of heart.

Dear Winnie was a good example of keeping a tough spirit but a tender heart. She had to be tough in spirit to do what she did—to evangelize and reach the hardened men and women in prison; to travel and step out of her comfort zone and establish works; to sometimes face scorn and rejection, not just because she lived for Me and preached Me, but sometimes because of her gender and nationality. Through all that, she had to be tough in spirit, and she showed this in her determination and powerful delivery of the message. But at the same time she kept love and tenderness as prominent qualities in her life, which was clearly visible to others and key in her effectiveness as a witness.

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(password: thekeys)
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