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FIRST

Seek First the Kingdom of God!

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OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE FAITH MISSION



WHEN GOD CAME DOWN

THE NORTH UIST REVIVAL

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A MESSAGE FROM THE FAITH MISSION'S GENERAL DIRECTOR

For many this has been a summer of change and challenge. The resignation of Mrs May as prime minister and the subsequent appointment of Boris Johnson to that role is the change which most obviously affects the majority of us. With this comes the challenge and uncertainty of whether Brexit will or should happen and, if it does, what this will mean for us as individuals, as a nation and, more importantly, for the cause of the gospel in years to come.

At such times of change, challenge and uncertainty it is good to remind ourselves of Matthew 11:22: *'Have faith in God'*. In an article I read recently by R Arthur Matthews, he suggests that the original rendering carries the meaning of "hold God's faithfulness". He is sovereign, He is working out His purposes, He is the all-sufficient One and His promises are absolutely certain. God is still on the throne today, he can be trusted, and we can confidently rest in Him.

This has also been a summer of change for many of the Mission's personnel. Due to reorganisation following the retirement of Trevor and Sandra Matthews and David and Marjorie Bennett, several have moved to new locations and taken on new responsibilities. This includes Jim Lyons, who took over from Trevor as Director for Ireland on 1 August. He and Hilda have moved to Portadown to oversee the Irish Border District and operate the Irish Headquarters office from there. All who have moved will value prayer as they settle into their new situations.

We are delighted that in September four of the Bible College students who graduated in June are joining the work of The Faith Mission. Brian and Hazel Parker and their three

children, Luke, Caleb and Jude, will be moving to Cootehill in County Cavan to recommence our area work outreach programme throughout the Cavan and Monaghan area. Reuben Lyons will be working alongside Mervyn and Rachel Tomb from their base at Durrow in the Irish Midlands and Lewis MacDonald will join Donnie and Catherine Macleod in Inverness for outreach throughout the Highlands of Scotland.

Harry Clayson, who earlier this year married former student Jessica Parkinson, leaves us on 31 August to undertake further studies in anticipation of entering church-based ministry in the future. We are grateful to Harry for his fellowship and passionate commitment to gospel ministry and wish him and Jessica God's richest blessing for their future.

At the time of writing, five new students have been accepted for the Bible College course commencing in September. A number of other applications are also in progress and we trust to see more accepted before the new session commences. The students returning for their second year and the staff team will also value your prayer support.

Amidst all the change, this has also been a fruitful and encouraging summer, during which several folk of varying ages have met with the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. We thank God for His goodness, and look to Him for His help and blessing for the opportunities and challenges that the autumn will bring. Thank you for standing with us in prayer.

We trust you will enjoy this edition of the magazine. •

| *John Townend, General Director*

FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

BY SAM
GORDON

'But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.'

Galatians 5:22-23

The Fruit of the Spirit is Faithfulness

We love to sing the old hymn, “Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not, as Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.” These words are based on the experience of Jeremiah, who was called the “weeping prophet” (see Lamentations 3:22-23). God is faithful – it oozes from every pore in His divine being. We experience this faithfulness of God every day in our lives. When we are *touched* by sin, God is faithful to keep us in His family (1 Corinthians 1:8-9); when we are *tempted* to sin, God is faithful to provide a way of escape (1 Corinthians 10:13); when we are *tangled* in sin God is faithful to forgive us and cleanse us (1 John 1:9).

The challenge for us is, are we men and women marked by faithfulness? An American preacher defined it by: “Faithfulness is doing your duty until your duty is done.” Faithfulness is not only



PART 5

something that God desires, it's something He desires and requires of His children. When we look at scripture we quickly discover our God is one who exemplifies faithfulness. In Hebrews 11, one chorus echoes from every story: it's a song that pays eloquent tribute to the faithfulness of God. Psalm 119:86 tells us that the promises of God are completely trustworthy; they are based upon the character of an utterly reliable God. Through all the ups and downs of life, here is One who remains faithful. God longs for us to display the fruit of faithfulness in our lives. It's an essential ingredient in our service for the Lord and vital if we are to know optimum blessing in our relationships with others.

In the New Testament, a classic example of faithfulness is Peter. He was a rugged fisherman and Jesus changed his life. We read of his faults and failings, but he's also marked out for his faithfulness. It is being faithful in the big

things and the small things where our lives can shine brightly – in our homes, to our families, to our spouse, in the workplace. God is looking for faithful people in the nitty-gritty of life, in the insignificant things, in behind-the-scenes tasks. Can people in the team count on you? Can the leadership in your church count on you? Have our children and grandchildren reason to thank God for our faithful influence on their lives? We are called to be faithful to the Lord and to each other, faithful in service as we grasp every opportunity that comes our way. When we reach the other side, our Lord will say: *‘Well done, good and faithful servant.’*

The Fruit of the Spirit is Gentleness

A Turkish proverb says: “If someone hits you with a stone, hit him back with a piece of cotton”. Gentleness is both a grace and a giant. When we talk about gentleness, the implication is that we have to stoop down in order to get it. It is something we acquire on bended knee before the cross. This fruit has a cleansing effect on the windows of our lives so that the beauty of Jesus may be seen in us.

Back in New Testament times, and even in the third millennium, gentleness doesn't figure in the top ten sought-after qualities. The question is, what is gentleness or, as some versions render it, meekness? People often view meekness as a weakness. Someone who is meek is not a wimp, there is nothing insipid or watered down about them. There are three strings to the bow of gentleness: to be submissive to the will of God, to have a teachable spirit, and to be considerate towards others. Gentleness is strength under control, a power that is harnessed in loving service and in respectful actions.

Gentleness moves in two directions. It has a Godward aspect – to be completely trusting and submissive to God. In our interacting

with people, gentleness has a rich quality of mildness, not harsh or judgemental, but caring and compassionate and at the same time being firm if needed. An Old Testament example is Moses, who stood before the most powerful ruler on earth with nothing but a stick and a stammering tongue and said: *‘Let my people go.’* Moses showed gentleness when his brother and sister were giving him a hard time because of his wife. Moses showed great strength and reserve.

When Jesus preached about gentleness or meekness, He didn't win a lot of friends. Jesus was preaching a meek kingdom, a kingdom of godly gentleness. A person whose life bears the fruit of gentleness doesn't intimidate those in the home, in the workplace or in the church. Paul spells it out in a succinct manner in Ephesians 4:2: *‘Be completely humble and gentle’* to one another. This is especially true for those involved in leadership roles. Gentleness defuses a bad temper; a quiet and meek answer has a way of calming a turbulent situation.

In Mathew 11:29 Jesus said: *‘Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart’*. The context refers to a younger ox being placed in a yoke with an older more experienced ox. They walk and work together in step. Jesus is saying: “Submit your life to me, walk and work with me and let me teach you how to be gentle”. The yoke was tailor-made for the ox and fitted perfectly so as not to rub the neck. Learning gentleness from Jesus, one step at a time, one day at a time, brings us immense joy and fulfilment.

Let us be individuals who are characterised by gentleness. God can do anything with a man or woman who is gentle. To walk with this gentleness we have to bend low. ●

Sam has an international Bible teaching ministry under the banner of Truth for Today. Check out his website for free resources – www.truthfortoday.co.uk.

BY H E GOVAN

JEHOVAH NISSI

יְהוָה נִסִּי

THE LORD
MY BANNER

Exodus 17

Leadership, defence, maintenance, healing – all these new unfoldings of the Divine Name came to Israel as they journeyed forward towards their Canaan. Travelling under God's guidance and commandments, they had seen bitter waters turned sweet to meet their thirst, and miraculous provision of manna when starvation was their real fear. Three days' march through a desert followed, tending to

make them irritable in spirit through thirst and weariness, until water was miraculously released from the rock. At this stage, there is a new revelation to the people of God: *'The Lord their Banner'*. But for Israel, the Amalekites blocked the path. They were there to contest access. Angry, fretful and dispirited, they halt under the cliff in Horeb. In this new emergency, their faith has failed yet again. Jehovah is lost sight of, the Red Sea and

the provision of manna forgotten. They threw doubts on God's presence and care, debating: *'Is Jehovah among us or not?'* Instead of confidently trusting in the God who had declared Himself as *'I will be'*, they resorted to murmuring and rebellion and were almost ready to stone Moses. In grace and mercy, God met their immediate need again by water from the stricken rock.

The peril of Amalek's resistance was still there! Moses recounted in Deuteronomy 25:18 how the foe tried to take advantage of their weakness and while Israel stood there by Horeb the enemy fell in behind them. *'They tempted Jehovah... then came Amalek and fought with Israel'* (Exodus 17:6-8). Israel was not ready for the fight. This was the time for prompt and vigorous action. The mass of the people had failed in faith; did their leaders have faith to retrieve this position? God had intervened before, at the Red Sea and foiled the advance of the Egyptians there. This is now a foe that was prepared to contest their advance to the good land God had called them to. Moses clearly saw the reason for this attack. It was because Amalek *'feared not God'* that he met them by the way and smote them; this was a deliberate challenge of God's covenant with Abraham which God was working out. The stubborn opposition to Israel was a defiance of Jehovah Himself. This was a time to bravely buckle the sword. It is common to not be far from *'Egypt'* before facing stubborn foes. There are those who bear the name "Christian" who have never gone any further than the thought of the slain Lamb: belief of sins forgiven but no real exodus from

Egypt and no attempt to conquer the hosts of darkness. But there is no royal road to Canaan. We cannot be "carried to the skies on flowery beds of ease". Our kind Shepherd will spare us as much as possible (Exodus 13:17) but, sooner or later, there will be warfare to face. It is through *'much tribulation'* we enter the kingdom of God. Should we weakly yield to disappointment and discouragement, by falling to Amalek? This will happen if we murmur and ask whether Jehovah is with us

He provided the Lamb by whose blood we were sheltered from the destroyer and brought out of bondage. He opened the Red Sea for our deliverance.

or not. It will, if we have not by faith found a new disclosure of the wonderful Name. He provided the Lamb by whose blood we were sheltered from the destroyer and brought out of bondage. He opened the Red Sea for our deliverance; but now we need to see how He can meet a further need. This revelation is ready for us. Here, for all our warfare, is the battle cry that ensures victory – *'the Lord my Banner'*.

Moses already knew this as reality. The column of cloud before the camp, pointing a way of advance against Amalek, meant

the goodwill of Him who dwelt in the bush. Jehovah, who had met Him there and charged him with this work and, in His sacred Name, pledged infinite resource for every emergency, was Himself at the head of this battle. This first encounter showed that the battle depends on hidden spiritual forces. Jehovah is a Man of war! They had sung this when the Red Sea was passed; and in this new war, He, though unseen, yet ever near, would be victorious. If only all Israel had shared this faith! If only we might share it.

God is on the field, even when He is most

invisible. Webb-Peploe says: “The Lord knows nothing of defeat or failure when making provision for His redeemed. Surely they are to progress in an unbroken series of victories. The child of God need not be defeated for a moment. There must be a conscious appropriation of the strength of God’s arm. This is only through prayer and faith. The apostles, who were commissioned to cast out demons, tried in vain when faced with a young man with a foul spirit. Jesus explained: *‘this kind goeth not out but by prayer.’* We need to be armed for our warfare against principalities and powers, with *‘all prayer and supplication, praying at all times in the Spirit, and watching thereunto in all perseverance’* (Ephesians 6:10-18).

While Joshua is charging Amalek on the plain, upon the height there are three figures. One of them, Moses, is weary and supported by the other two, holding up a staff towards heaven. Hours pass as the battle rages. The foe is yielding. Joshua is winning. Then Amalek makes a counter charge. The old saint is weary and his arms droop. But as Aaron and Hur give support, eventually with the staff lifted towards heaven, victory is won as Amalek is routed and Joshua is in full pursuit. The pledge of God’s promise to him is now stretched toward heaven. The rod was a symbol and pledge of covenanted blessing; uplifting it was claiming the fulfilled pledge. Victory was secured for Israel not lightly but by persevering prayer.

So Moses built his memorial altar and called it *‘Jehovah Nissi.’* The words according to the literal Hebrew are: “A hand upon the throne of Jehovah”. Jehovah will have war with Amalek from generation to generation. If Amalek’s hand dare assault Jehovah’s throne to overturn

it, Israel’s hand will lay hold of the power that resides there to overwhelm Amalek. This is the efficacy of the hand of faith outstretched in prayer. *‘The supplication of a righteous man availeth much in its working.’*

‘Thou hast given a banner to them that fear Thee, that it may be displayed because of the truth’ (Psalm 60:4). Our surest hope of success is being conscious that God is on our side. It is by grasping firmly the promise and pleading persistently for its fulfilment in each fresh emergency. If God has said Canaan is ours, who is Amalek to say it is not? This is our invincible standard for personal spiritual achievement and the success of God’s cause for which we fight. Should any enemy deny us the fullness of blessing received in redemption? Would any hinder us from aggressive warfare for God? If such a banner leads us, God will blot out the name of any such enemy under heaven (Deuteronomy 25:19). But there must be no relaxing or pausing at the foe, no sparing of Agag and the best of the spoil, as Saul did when fighting Amalek in later years (1 Samuel 15).

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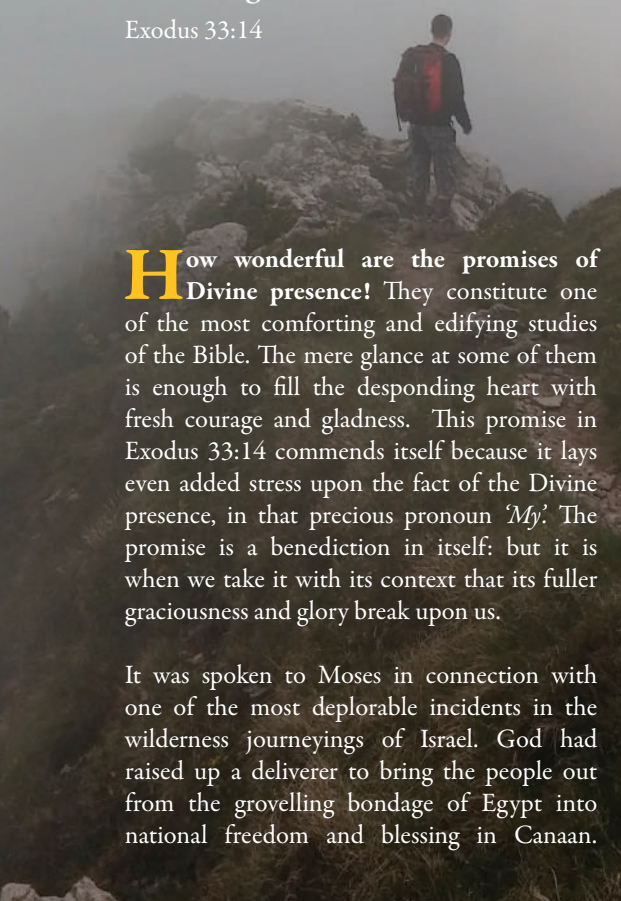
In this battle Joshua comes to the front as the leader. His name is the Hebrew form of Jesus, meaning *“I will be salvation”*. *Our ensign is ‘the root of Jesse’* (Isaiah 11:10-12), the cross on which He was uplifted. It is He who must command our forces if there is to be victory. If I am to look to myself as chief captain in the fight, there is no hope; but when I come to see Him as the Leader and Commander, my place is to get up into the hill, lay hold of the promise of His victory, and plead it in prayer, and then the victory will fall to His arms and His will be all the glory. •

| *Adapted from the writings of HE Govan*

My Presence

*'My presence will go with thee,
and I will give thee rest'*

Exodus 33:14



How wonderful are the promises of Divine presence! They constitute one of the most comforting and edifying studies of the Bible. The mere glance at some of them is enough to fill the desponding heart with fresh courage and gladness. This promise in Exodus 33:14 commends itself because it lays even added stress upon the fact of the Divine presence, in that precious pronoun *'My'*. The promise is a benediction in itself: but it is when we take it with its context that its fuller graciousness and glory break upon us.

It was spoken to Moses in connection with one of the most deplorable incidents in the wilderness journeyings of Israel. God had raised up a deliverer to bring the people out from the grovelling bondage of Egypt into national freedom and blessing in Canaan.

BY J SIDLOW BAXTER

He had accomplished their emancipation with mighty hand and outstretched arm. He had demonstrated His presence with them by miraculous interventions preserving, protecting, and providing in wonderful ways. Yet now, while Moses is in the mount receiving the commandments and the instructions regarding the tabernacle, the people *'have turned aside quickly'* to idolatry. Moses returns to the camp and sees the idol worship in progress. The tables of the law drop from his trembling hands. He seizes the wretched image, burns it in the fire and then grinds it to powder. A broken-hearted man, he sinks down before God and sobs (Exodus 32:32). It was in loving kindness toward his heart-stricken servant that God gave this further assurance: *'My presence will go with thee.'*

This promise was spoken to a **disappointed** man, a man whose life had suddenly become a disheartening disillusionment. The people on whom such high hopes were set had proved faithless! The tables of the law lay in fragments below the mount! The wrath of God burned against the stiff-necked idolaters! Poor Moses! His disappointment must have been great beyond our knowing. It was to *this* man, and at *this* time, that the comforting word was given. Perhaps you have started out with godly intentions and high hopes, but experience has brought disillusionment, denial, unexpected turns of frustration and now you are disappointed with life? There is an incurable, dull ache in your heart about the way things have transpired? This promise is for you!

This promise was spoken to a **discouraged** man, a man whose great work for God seemed to be falling to pieces. How deeply discouraged must Moses have been! Not only have the people proved utterly undependable and perverted, and three thousand Israelites fallen by the swords of their own brothers, and the

tabernacle been removed from the corrupted camp, but God Himself has indicated the withdrawal of His personal presence from the people. God has said that an angel shall lead the host but an angel's presence without God Himself means mere guidance without fellowship (see Exodus 33:13-16). *'My presence shall go with thee and I will give thee rest.'*

This promise was spoken to a **diffident** man, a man bending beneath the weight of a great responsibility, feeling that his burden was more than he could bear and apprehensive about the future. Is it surprising that above all else he longed for the assurance of the Divine presence with him? Going with the sense of responsibility there would likely be a sense of loneliness. When God calls a man out for special leadership and responsibility or for some deeper experience of himself, it always means a certain loneliness. If we obey the *'heavenly vision'* our very obedience means that we must tread a path where God wants us alone and where others cannot accompany us. Loneliness has been a dread ordeal with many great servants of God, and has made them long for the compensating consciousness of the Lord's own presence with them. Has God failed them? To all who bear heavy burdens and to all who are lonely because of their attachment to the Lord Jesus, this promise comes with its heavenly cheer: *'My presence will go with thee.'*

The first word in the promise is that precious pronoun *'My'*. God's promise to send an angel, far from satisfied Moses. He now at length tenderly yields to His servant's moving entreaty, and says: *'My presence shall go with thee'*. The Septuagint Version, recognising the emphasis on the pronoun here, translates it: *'I Myself will go with thee'*. That priceless *'My'* pledges to us the side-by-side, step-by-step, heart-to-heart fellowship of God Himself through all our way. *'My presence...'* meant far

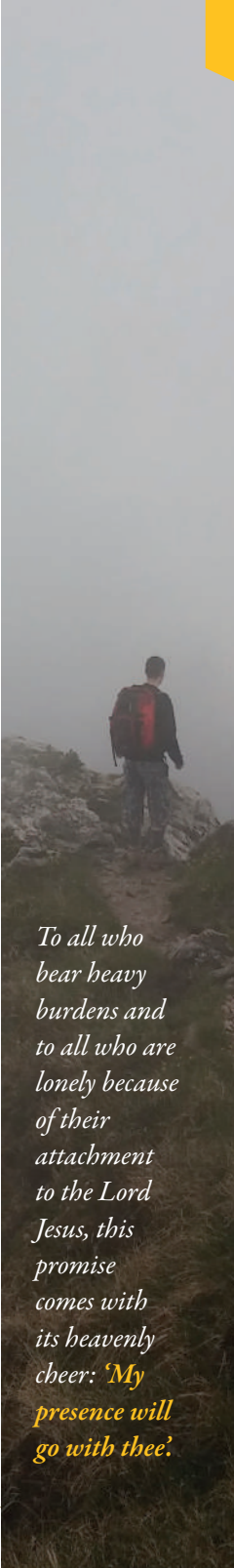
more than infallible superintendence from a distant heaven. It meant close companionship of One who was enough to meet all Moses' need for guidance and sustenance and strength. An unchanging, undeparting Friend should company with him through all the wilderness journeyings, a wonderful Friend who would sit with him in the tent, stand with him in the council, and go forth with him on the field of battle. All sense of loneliness should be lost in the abiding presence of One who was at the same time absolutely almighty and infinitely sympathetic.

Translated literally, the word reads: *'My face shall go with thee.'* It bespeaks intimacy of fellowship. In some wonderful way there was to be face-to-face communion. This expression also speaks of radiance. This was the beautiful antidote to Moses' gloomy anxiety. There can be no darkness in that life where regular communion with God keeps the soul bathed in the glory-light of the Divine smile. Disapproval is often indicated by the turning away of the face. God condescendingly accommodates Himself to our human ways of speaking and doing in the anthropomorphism: *'My face shall go with thee'* thus indicating His gracious favour. *'The face of the Lord is against them that do evil'* says the Psalmist (34:16) and again, *'God be merciful unto us, and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon you.'* (Psalm 67:1). The Divine favour is ever beaming upon the true believer from the face of Jesus Christ.

Look at the certainty of the promise: *'My presence shall...'* The Divine assurances are never enfeebled by any suggestion of falteringness. They are all 'yea and amen' doubly sure. The vivid and supporting consciousness of His presence may be known by the humblest among us. There is no good reason why the realisation of the Divine presence should not be a constant and cloudless experience with us (Isaiah 57:15). Dear Christian, canst thou not believe it? This wondrous consciousness of thy Lord's continual presence is meant for *thee*. It is in no sense the exclusive portion of a privileged class.

O believer, dear to the great Father, made unspeakably precious to Him by the redemption price paid on Calvary, made sacred to Him by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, think over this great truth, that God would hold fellowship with thee every hour of the day. If we are conscientious and resolute to maintain some time or times of private prayer, and thoughtful Bible meditation each day and are willing to put from us vain ways and questionable practices, determining to love God with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, we may "practise the presence of God" as Brother Lawrence did, and develop such a radiant realisation of His fellowship with us as shall keep us always *'rejoicing with joy unspeakable and full of glory.'* Thus our pathway will be illumined with a Divine light which will burn ever more brightly unto the perfect day of heaven. •

This is an excerpt taken from 'His Part and Ours' by J Sidlow Baxter.



*To all who bear heavy burdens and to all who are lonely because of their attachment to the Lord Jesus, this promise comes with its heavenly cheer: **'My presence will go with thee.'***



When God Came Down

The North Uist Revival

BY JOHN FERGUSON

At the close of the 1950s when the church was beginning to lose ground in most parts of Britain, North Uist had a genuine revival. The story is not told by historians but by those who were personally involved in the reality and wonder of it. It is the story of God coming in sovereign grace to individual men and women through the clear preaching of the gospel and a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit, of sins being forgiven and forsaken, of lives being brought from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to the power of God, and of a community being changed for the better because the lives of ordinary people, young and old, had been changed, not by the inner force of the flawed and feeble will or the external constraints of decree or fashion, but by the regenerating power of the Spirit of God.

The movement that affected Lewis and some of the other islands in 1949-53 did not touch Uist at all. Duncan Campbell preached at a series of evangelistic meetings on the island around that time, but no visible results were recorded. However, it would be wrong to assume that nothing important was happening in the spiritual life of the island. Even during the lean years, God was adding to the church, people who bore a quiet and consistent witness to God's saving grace. As a result of earlier awakenings, family worship was still the custom in many homes. The gospel was faithfully proclaimed from all pulpits; the Bible and the Shorter Catechism were taught at Sunday schools and day schools and, on the whole, the people were God-fearing with a grasp of the basics of the Christian faith.

When Alastair MacDonald was inducted into the parish of Kilmuir and Paible he found very few signs of vibrant spiritual life in the area. He writes: "The Lord's cause was at a low ebb



at the time. The prayer meeting attendance was eight or ten. On one occasion when I was feeling downcast, the word of the Lord spoke to me: *'Be not afraid...for I have much people in this city'* (Acts 18:9). Alistair MacMillan, the Church of Scotland missionary in Sollas, sensed that a move of the Spirit was near. Commenting on the local church situation, in his own quaint way said: 'It only needs a match applied to it.'

In October 1957, after the summer team evangelism and annual September holiday, Jean Wilson and Margaret MacIntyre from Northern Ireland, Daphne Parker from Leicestershire, and Mary Morrison from Ness in Lewis and a convert of the 1949-53 revival, returned to Claddach Carinish. At first there was not much power, life or warmth in the meetings but, as the mission progressed, interest among the people improved and the spirit in the meetings grew in expectancy

and blessing. The workers prayed; oh how they prayed. They were moving in the spirit of prayer and expectancy. Some fine young people were attending, numbers increased and interest soared. Jean Wilson recalls: "As we battled through in prayer in every mission, God used His Word to shape our lives and search our hearts. Repeatedly we were brought low before God to see our nothingness and complete dependence on His sovereign power." In many accounts of past revivals, we find that the agents God used were often made aware that they were being prepared for something out of the ordinary. Sometimes it was a deep awareness of personal unworthiness, sometimes a renewed confidence in God's promises. Margaret McIntyre recalls: "I first noticed the change in our morning prayer times. We had times of brokenness, followed by times of great joy and rejoicing, with power and liberty in prayer. Then the same power broke into the services... the whole atmosphere was charged by the Holy Ghost."

They had opened the Lochmaddy campaign on 19 November, 1957, with forty present and a spirit of expectancy among the people. A word which gripped them and which they constantly pled before the Lord was: *'And when His is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness and of judgement'* (John 16:8). As the mission progressed, it became obvious that the whole community was gripped by an awareness that something unusual was happening at the meetings. A genuine movement of God's Spirit is never restricted to buildings or gatherings but often

A genuine movement of God's Spirit is never restricted to buildings or gatherings but often reaches people where they are, and even the most godless seem to be restrained.

reaches people where they are, and even the most godless seem to be restrained. Such was the situation in Lochmaddy.

From Lochmaddy they moved to Sollas where a large number were converted. The meetings were held in a school and were both in Gaelic and English and lasted for two hours. The spirit of receptivity and openness to God and His Word was everywhere apparent. All that people wanted was more of God, more of ministry in the Holy Ghost. Mary Morrison speaks of: "...the schoolroom was crowded.

The side-rooms were filled and again we were conscious that there was something going on that we could not contain, something bigger than our efforts. We came to the services conscious that at best we were unprofitable servants."

Jean, Mary and Daphne began meetings at Tigharry. Five men in the Tigharry district were not pleased that the revival meetings were to be held in their area and they agreed to meet in a home to plan some strategy to stop or hinder them. One, James Shirran, was on his way to this 'council of war' when he was met by two of the girls carrying planks and making their way towards the school. The girls were struggling with the planks and the men helped carry them to the school. When the men left the school, the girls got down on their knees and cried to God to save all five. They were among the first to come to faith in Tigharry. The first meeting was filled with 111 people.

A unique aspect of the Tigharry mission was the attendance of children. At times the room

would be so crowded that they would be perched on the window sills or wherever they could find a space. It became obvious that a special meeting for the children would be the best solution. Many young lives were touched by the Spirit of God including Kate-Anne Shirran¹, the daughter of the man who helped with the benches. “I remember well,” writes Kate-Anne, “that the talk in the playground at the interval time centred on those who had been saved the night before. Hymn-singing was also part of the playtime at school.”

Over sixty people in this scattered area of Tigharry were soundly converted with many others hovering on the brink, not far away from the kingdom. All the workers left the island for a break at this time, but it was not long before Jean and Mary were back at Bayhead, North Uist, for their next mission. John Ferguson, editor of this book was converted during the Bayhead mission. Again they experienced a great deal of blessing in fellowship with the Christians and saw more people led to the Lord. Twenty-four new members were added to the Kilmuir and Paible church. Other converts became members during the following years.

In December 1958, the Carinish village hall, near the tiny hamlet of Clachan, was the venue for the last mission of those remarkable days. God moved by His Spirit and there were some outstanding cases of conversion. By the end of the Carinish mission, the whole of North Uist had been reached by the Faith Mission workers and God had blessed the work in a most wonderful way. “As we look back over

the years,” writes Mary Morrison, “we can only thank God for the privilege of being in Uist at a time when His favour was so remarkably demonstrated. Often we felt that we were no more than spectators of what the Lord Himself was doing.”

Praise the Lord for the revelation of His power and of His presence in this far-off part of Great Britain. God had been glorified in the manifestation of Himself and in the salvation of numbers of souls. He had deigned to walk among men and make His presence known.

That is the essence of revival – the awesome awareness of God’s holy presence. •

God had been glorified in the manifestation of Himself and in the salvation of numbers of souls.

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Editor’s note: ‘Kate-Anne Shirran was on the staff of the Faith Mission Bible College in Edinburgh as cook from 1990 until 2006. At this time there were many who went into ministry or became elders within the church. John Ferguson studied at the Bible College and then ministered within the Church of Scotland. Later his daughter, Agnes, was also a student at the College.

Copies of the book ‘When God Came Down: An Account of the North Uist Revival 1957-58’ can be obtained from Donnie MacLean at Drumsmittal School, North Kessock, Inverness, IV1 3XF or lewisrecordings@aol.com. Copies are also available through FM Bookshops



Carinish village hall, modern times



BY CHARLES
FERGUSON

Lord Send us Revival!

We speak, read and pray about revival, yet there is a sense in which we have lost the appetite to understand the movement of God's Spirit in reviving His church. What is the first thought that comes to mind when we mention revival? Blessing, large meetings and those who God has used in revival?

Biblical revival is entirely the prerogative of God and a clear movement and work of the Holy Spirit. There have been many movements of God's Spirit in blessing but true revival is a different issue from a biblical perspective. Unlike evangelism, revival cannot be organised, subsidised, advertised or computerised. Dr Martin Lloyd-Jones has described revival as "an experience in the life of the church when the Holy Spirit does an unusual work. He does that work primarily amongst the members of the church; it is a

reviving of the believers. You cannot revive something that has never had life, so revival, by definition, is first of all an enlivening and quickening and awakening of lethargic, sleeping, almost moribund church members."

Historically, certain conditions have to be present before God comes down to bless the church in revival. We live in what must be the darkest time for the church since the Reformation with every form of attack against the gospel, the Word of God and the person of the Lord Jesus. The onslaught is so hostile that if ever we needed God to visit us in revival, it is today. The deterioration of the testimony is all too clear as we are experiencing it within the church worldwide.

In the book of Haggai we have an example of how God motivates His people, who had come back to see a temple which had

been many years desolate (Haggai 1). God encourages them by showing that it is never too late for restoration. The temple had been left for fifteen years and, on return from captivity, Haggai has a word from the Lord. After captivity, Israel came back to a deserted land, a desolate city and a temple in ruins. Haggai's ministry was effective in stimulating their hearts and minds.

Revival will have an effect on the Christian. It will restore an awareness of God and His sovereignty. There will be an appetite for prayer, an awareness of sin and an anointing of the Spirit. We can see this in the lives of those God used in revival. During the great awakening in America (1730-1745), Jonathan Edwards removed what was known as the "social gospel". Billy Sunday, Moody and Sankey were men who surrendered their lives to the cause for revival. In Ireland it was W P Nicholson, in England Gypsy Smith, in Wales Evan Roberts, and in Scotland it was Jock Troup and Duncan Campbell.

We see from Haggai that God raised up a man to speak for Him and to see restoration brought about. We see in chapter one a pattern of where we are today. God was telling them to rebuild the temple but their lives was too comfortable: *'Is it time for you to remain in panelled houses while this house remains a ruin?'* Too often the barrenness of a busy life hinders our work for God and legitimate things smother our zeal. Living in stately mansions must have become a comfortable existence after fifteen years in

captivity. Sometimes a Christian can have a lack of satisfaction in life and look for something that can satisfy, causing neglect of the things of God.

There must be a real desire and passion for revival with a priority that God should be glorified.

Prayer is the key to creating that desire and passion before God will act.

There must be a real desire and passion for revival with a priority that God should be glorified. Prayer is the key to creating that desire and passion before God will act. This will lead to a burden for the lost and a realisation of our own inability to do anything.

God speaks to His people: *'Consider your ways'* (Haggai 1:5). The voice of Jehovah is unmistakable and He gives them instructions on how to restore the temple. The job was done in twenty-four days (v.15). It is never too late for restoration and revival.

*Visit us Lord, with revival
Stricken with coldness and death,*

*Where is our hope of survival
Save in Thy life-giving breath?*

*Surely 'tis time for revival;
Surely soon dawneth the day;
Soon shall we hail its arrival,
Chasing the shadows away.*

H E Govan •



Charles came to Christ at fifteen years old. He served his apprenticeship in engineering and, after working for a few companies, attended Abertay University. Before retirement he spent fifteen years lecturing in industrial management. Charles now lives in Fife, Scotland, and is involved in the work of evangelism, particularly street and open-air work and around the local travelling sites.

BY CHRISTINA FOX

All women are working women

The way we view work in our culture is interesting. How we spend the hours of our day defines us. We meet new people and ask, “What do you do?” They answer, “I am a ____.” Whatever we put in that blank defines us. Not only that, but the work we do is valued, based on the level of education it requires, how far we’ve advanced in our profession and how much we earn doing that job. There’s a hierarchy of sorts, making certain kinds of work more important than others.

Since I was at school, I knew I wanted to help people. I volunteered at our local crisis pregnancy centre, helping the director with various tasks and thinking, “I want a job like this one day.” I worked hard, both in my educational pursuits and in my work in the counselling field.

When my oldest was born, we decided it would be best for our family that I stay home with him. I had to admit, as much as I believed in that decision, it was equally hard for me. My identity was wrapped up in my work. I struggled with taking on my new role as a “stay at home mum”. Even now when I attend classes and workshops to stay up to date on what is happening in the counselling field, I

often stumble through introducing myself to others in the class, as everyone else introduces themselves by the work they do.

But when I think about it, I do a lot of work in my day and I labour hard at what I do. Some of it is mundane, repetitive work such as that of maintaining a home: paying bills, sweeping and mopping floors, washing dishes. Other work involves investing in the minds and hearts of my children through discipleship and home schooling. As a church member, I serve in discipleship ministry and host a small group in my home. I also work in my writing and speaking ministry. Whether I get paid for it or not, I am a working woman.

Because of the way our society views work, and the value it places on certain kinds of work, it is tempting to think that mundane work isn’t important. It’s tempting to think that time spent investing in the heart of another person is wasted time. It’s tempting to think that only income-producing work is valuable. But we need to remember that all things done for the glory of God are never wasted. All work that is done for God’s sake is good work, whether anyone sees it or not.

Your efforts to cook a healthy meal for your family is important work. The time you spend mentoring that young person is an eternal and valuable investment. The work you do behind the scenes that no one notices or people take for granted is important work. The job you faithfully go to each day, even though it's not your dream job, is honouring to the Lord. While your work may not be glamorous or valuable to the world's eyes, while you may not receive payment for your labours or the wage you receive isn't much to write home about, it is valuable to the Lord.

All our work is valuable because of the work Christ completed for us. His holy, perfect, and righteous work of obeying the law on our behalf was given to us. *'Because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption'* (1 Corinthians 1:30). His sacrificial work at the cross paid the penalty that we were due. *'For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God'* (2 Corinthians 5:21). Even now He labours for us before the throne and intercedes for us (see Romans 8:34).

Jesus' work reshapes our own work and makes it holy. His work paves the way for all the work that we do – the seen and the unseen, the mundane and the spectacular, the boring and the interesting, the easy and the hard. Because of the work that Christ did for us, all our work is done through Him

and for Him. Because we are united to Him by faith, God looks at all our efforts and labours and doesn't see failures, mistakes, blunders and sins but sees Jesus' perfect work on our behalf. Jesus' righteous work for us makes all the work we do valuable. This is good news for working women! And God promises that our efforts to labour in His name will one day reap a harvest (Galatians 6:8-10).

Remember that all things done for the glory of God are never wasted. All work that is done for God's sake is good work, whether anyone sees it or not.

So whether you work in the home or outside the home, whether your work is exciting and glamorous or boring and mundane, whether you receive pay for your work or not, know that your work is valuable in the sight of God. May we Christian women labour hard

to the glory of God because of the work our Saviour has done for us. •



Christina is a wife and mother. She homeschools their two sons and in between speaks at women's ministry events and writes. This article was inspired by her book 'Sufficient Hope: Gospel Meditations and Prayers for Mums'.

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TRUST

in Me



BY LIZ BEADIE

While attending a conference we were invited to choose a word to stand on for the coming year. I chose TRUST. I put it in bold capital letters on my prayer board. I didn't know what the year ahead would bring and how much I would need to TRUST, but God knew.

In 2010 I was diagnosed with liver disease and told through time my liver would fail. Initially the doctors said ten years, another said five years. At that time God gave me a verse: *'I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord'* (Psalm 118:17). I attended the clinic appointments and the regular scans

but didn't really dwell a lot on it, standing firm on God's Word.

The beginning of 2018 brought big storms in the weather and big storms in our lives. My husband was diagnosed with bladder cancer, which was aggressive. He was hospitalised many times and was getting very weak. While waiting on radiotherapy, he had a heart attack. I can remember crying out to God while in the ambulance on the way to the hospital. I was thinking he is too weak to survive this. He had a stent fitted that night and was sitting up having breakfast by 6am! Only God could do this.

He began his radiotherapy and travelled each day to Monklands General Hospital with a 'Cancer Care' driver, David. On 12 July it was my husband's last radiotherapy session and I remember thinking we have turned a corner. God has brought us through, it's nearly over. That day I had my routine appointment. I had been feeling unwell but thought it was the stress of my husband's illness. The doctor took my hand and very gently told me I had a tumour in my liver. I was overcome with shock. The doctor went on to explain there was no treatment. The only hope was a liver transplant, but it was uncertain if I would be accepted for this. She would refer me to the transplant team and they would make the decision. On the way home I began to wonder how I was going to tell my family. In the midst of all sorts of emotions and thoughts I repeated God's promise: *'I shall not die but live and declare the works of the Lord.'* I knew I had to TRUST Him.

When I got home I tried to pluck up the courage to tell my husband what my diagnosis was. Making small talk I asked what David (the volunteer driver for 'Cancer Care') had been saying that day. He began to tell me how David had had a liver transplant two years ago and that inspired him to be a volunteer. My husband and David had been travelling together for four weeks and this was never mentioned. God's timing was perfect, He knew I needed reassurance.

While waiting on further investigation, I did something I've never done before. I emailed a prayer request for both myself and my husband to a Christian programme. Literally five minutes later the presenter read out my prayer request and his wife said, "I have a scripture for Liz." I was not surprised when she read out Psalm 118:17. I felt God was confirming His

Word and He knew every trial, reminding me that He was with us and all we had to do was TRUST.

I was admitted to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary for a five day assessment to see if I was to undergo the operation. On the first night of my stay the surgeon spoke to me for two hours outlining the risks and advising me that the tumour had grown dramatically in a short time. I was presently 4.7cm and if it reached 5cm they would not be able to operate. My family were devastated but I knew God had a plan and now, despite the prognosis, He was asking us to TRUST Him.

I was accepted for the waiting list and discharged on 6 October, having been advised that many people die while on the waiting list and that my tumour was growing. Chemotherapy to shrink the tumour was scheduled for while I was waiting. On 11 October I received a phone call. A donor had been found, after only five days of being on the waiting list. My daughter texted my church family and they started to pray. All through the day of the operation, I was being upheld in prayer by my brothers and sisters in the Lord. That was fourteen weeks ago. I have progressed with no complications. The doctors, my friends and family are amazed that I look so well. And to all of them I say the same thing, "To God be the glory."

I thank God daily for this precious gift of life and for the donor's family, who in their time of grief helped me to live. There was much sorrow in 2018, but even more victory.

*Trust in the Lord and don't despair,
He is a friend so true!
No matter what your troubles are,
Jesus will see you through. •*



In October 2000 I came from China to pursue academic degrees at a university in Aberdeen, because we Chinese believe that degrees can assure you that you will get a good job and have a happy life. But I never expected that the most wonderful assurance I have found here – being a Christian.

China is a communist country with a huge population. As a result, most of our Chinese grow up in a society where God is denied, and where there is very high competition in whatever you do. We are under pressure that if we do not work hard we will be overtaken by other people, in school, in work, or in a relationship. The rules of evolution are true in such a society. However, though evolutionism explains the situation well, it does not answer my questions “Who am I?”, “Why am I here?”, “Is there a God?” and if there is, “What does He do?” If we are just the descendants of monkeys, what’s the purpose of this troublesome life?

Not long after I came to Aberdeen, I was invited by a lecturer in my university to the International Students Welcome Party in a church. It was the first time I had been to a church in my life. In contrast to my imagination, the church did not have a spire or fancy decorations, the pastor did not wear robes, there was not even a cross in the church, but people in the church were so joyful and friendly. I was so surprised to see so many people, different races and different colours, gather together to sing a love song to the Lord Jesus. I was touched by their love and astonished by what I saw. I wanted to know more about Jesus.

In my class I met a friend, who took me to the Christian Union where I met a student from Northern Ireland. On Sunday she took me to a small church. At that time my English was too poor to communicate. One day after the service a lady met me and asked if I would like

to learn English with her through the Bible. Her offer was like a stream in the desert. I was more than happy to take it, especially when she said the tuition was free! So we started to read the gospel of Luke in April 2001. I later discovered that this lady was a retired teacher who had taught religion in the local grammar school, and before that she was a missionary in Malaysia for twenty years.

As we read, the beauty of Jesus was revealed before my eyes. I was so amazed to see the contrast of His life compared to others in the world: His great courage, daring to call God 'Father', surpasses that of the religious leaders; His knowledge of heaven and where He came from surpasses that of the teachers of the law; His care for the poor, the ill and the outcast surpasses that of the authorities; His healing power surpasses that of the doctors; His fishing skill surpasses that of the fishermen! What a contrast between His unconditional and unending love for the people compared to the people's ignorance of Him. There is none like Him. He is above all things and all the people on the earth, yet He declared '*my kingdom is not of this world*' (John 18:36). How beautiful His kingdom could be.

On the evening of 27 September, 2001, I invited my Bible teacher and some friends to my flat to celebrate the Middle Autumn Festival, which is a Chinese harvest thanksgiving day. But because of the events of September 11, which had shaken the whole world, we were saddened for those broken families in the tragedy. My Bible teacher took her Bible and pointed to Luke chapter 13 where Jesus was questioned about a similar situation. He said: '*...those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them – do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? I tell you, no. But unless you repent, you too will all perish.*' That verse really struck my heart. As I walked

my Bible teacher home that evening, I shared with her my troubles. She stopped and asked me if I would like to give my life to Jesus and repent from my sins. I said: "YES". Although at that time I did not know how to give my life to Jesus – someone I could not see – and did not understand what "sin" was, because of all the good things I had heard about Jesus, and all the nice people I had met who are Christians, I had simply no doubts. That night I gave my life to Jesus Christ and was born again!

How happy I am! The Lord Jesus has never let me down nor forsaken me since the first day I followed Him. Though I do not see Him, I can feel His peace and joy and love in my heart; though I cannot touch Him, I am amazed by the way He answers my prayers again and again. This kind of experience I have never had before. I am in love with Him by the day!

"Who am I?" I am a Chinese girl who left my father and mother and came to live with a people I did not know before. But by the grace of God I am adopted into His big family where I am provided for. Jesus knows all my failures in the past, all my troubles at the present, and all my fears of the future. He did not condemn me, but filled my cup with the '*living water*' so that I would never thirst again.

Jesus loves me, whoever I am. He died for me before I knew Him. His love made me special. I do not have to compete to receive His gift of love; it is only by grace and through faith. It is His good pleasure to see His people healthy, happy and prosperous.

"Why am I here?" I am here, dear brothers and sisters, to tell that the Lord Jesus is alive. He is God. He is here today! Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine.

I LOVE YOU LORD JESUS! •

INTERVIEW WITH TREVOR AND SANDRA MATTHEWS

As they retire from the work of The Faith Mission, Trevor and Sandra look back over more than forty years of service for the Lord.



FM: *What is your earliest memory of FM work?*

Trevor: Attending a children's meeting, conducted by a couple of FM workers, one of whom was Tillie Thompson, who later became FMBC Administrator. The sense of God's presence in those meetings was tangible and left an abiding impression.

Sandra: My mother was a former FM worker so our home was a natural "open house" to many involved in FM. The earliest memory I have is of the late Mr and Mrs Ellis Govan who stayed with us while conducting meetings in the area. I still have a picture which they gave me before they went as missionaries to Rhodesia.

FM: *What led you to join the work of The Faith Mission?*

Trevor: As a teenager, I was privileged to attend many FM meetings. It was our spiritual lifeline. The clear Bible teaching from totally committed workers, delivered in a passionate way, profoundly impacted me. Through this and other means I became very aware of God's call to Christian service and the model I saw in FM certainly attracted me to FMBC.

Sandra: God spoke to me about Christian service at the Filey Crusade in 1975 through the Great Commission in Mark 16. I wrestled with this call for some time and just could not get away from the words "Go you". I had no peace until I said the words of Isaiah "Here am I, send me".

FM: *What has been your biggest joy in ministry?*

Trevor: The greatest joy in ministry was and still is to preach God's Word – particularly evangelistic preaching. That joy is even greater when people respond to the gospel.

FM: *Is there a project or accomplishment that you consider to be the most significant during your time in FM?*

Trevor: There have been several thoroughly satisfying projects but perhaps the development of children's and youth camps has been the most fruitful. It was our joy to lead the first FM camp in Northern Ireland at the newly constructed camp centre in Portadown in 1984. To then later see three new purpose-built camp centres developed in Ireland over the past twenty years is just thrilling. To God be the glory!

FM: *You are passionate about evangelism; how have you kept this as your main focus in Christian ministry?*

Trevor: The call to evangelism has never altered. A love for people and a desire to see people truly converted to Christ has only deepened over the years, and the sheer joy of seeing genuine conversions was and is a great motivator.

FM: What advice would you give to young evangelists starting out with FM?

Trevor: Ask God for a tender heart toward the lost. Meditate deeply on Psalm 126:5: *‘Those who sow in tears will reap in joy.’* Maintain a good devotional life, read widely to understand the people you are reaching, and always resist discouragement.

FM: What is the greatest blessing and greatest burden of being a wife and mother in full-time ministry?

Sandra: To receive advice and help from mothers who were walking the same road. The late Mary Peckham walked into our kitchen one day and played with our young family and surprised me with a comment: “Oh these are the barren spiritual years.” Shortly after that visit she and her two daughters left their home in Edinburgh and stayed with our young family to allow me to go to our staff ministry meetings. I will never forget the kindness of many such mothers. My greatest challenge was to find time for my own spiritual development and the burden of family life when Trevor was away from home.

FM: Who is the person who has influenced your life the most?

Trevor: The influence of some great, godly people that we’ve met through FM work has been immense. It is difficult to highlight one, but probably the late Rev K M Buchanan, FMBC principal when I was a student, made the deepest impression. His teaching on and example of real intercessory prayer was absolutely unique.

Sandra: Over the years we’ve had preachers and missionaries staying in our home and on many occasions I was amazed by what God can do with a consecrated life. I can think of many who have influenced my life that I find it difficult to single one person out.

FM: What book, other than the Bible has most influenced your life?

Trevor: It is very difficult to select one book, but ‘Channel of Revival’ by Andrew Woolsey (an account of the life of Duncan Campbell) was a book that created deep spiritual hunger and really deepened my early spiritual life.

Sandra: It’s hard to pinpoint one particular book, but recently I read a book entitled ‘In Season: Embracing the Father’s Process of Fruitfulness’. For me this was a timely read for this season in my life.

FM: As you look back over your life, is there anything you would have done differently?

Sandra: I know I have made mistakes, and probably plenty more that I am unaware of. However I have had a very satisfying, fulfilling, rewarding and enjoyable life and there is nothing significant that I would do differently.

FM: Some have described retirement as the ‘never ending coffee break’. What do you see your retirement as?

Trevor: Wow, what a question! We have reached the point of retirement from FM in a full-time capacity but certainly do not envisage retirement from Christian ministry at this point. Several gospel campaigns are planned for the next couple of years with regular Sunday preaching. However, our family bring us great joy and spending a little more time with them will be a delight!

Sandra: I will still be a wife to Trevor, mother to Avril, Cheryl, Miriam and Ruth-Anne, and grandmother to nine grandchildren. My ministry continues within family and fulfilling ladies ministry commitments. I look forward to this new season in my life and know that God will continue to guide.

“You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream” © S Lewis •



INTERVIEW WITH DAVID AND MARJORIE BENNETT

David and Marjorie also retired at the end of July. Here they share some of the blessings from their many years of walking with and working for the Lord.

FM: *What is your earliest memory of FM work?*

David: As a child we had a weekly Prayer Union in our home in County Laois in the Irish Midlands and often Faith Mission workers would stay at our home on their free days. The earliest mission that I remember was held on my father's farm conducted by Miss Burrows and Miss Gordon.

Marjorie: I wasn't brought up in FM circles but I can remember going to a tent mission at the age of fourteen and being really struck by the "pilgrims" – to me they seemed like angels straight from heaven! I became involved when I joined our local PU after I was saved.

FM: *What led you to join the work of The Faith Mission?*

David: Coming from a farm, I had planned to continue farming which I loved and still do. As I entered my final year in secondary school in

September 1971, God clearly challenged me at a Bible College Rally near my home that if He wanted me in His work, was I willing to go? After much prayer and putting things right in my life, the clear call came through Mark 15:16: 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel'. God's call is as clear today as it was then.

Marjorie: Coming from County Down, Northern Ireland, Bangor Convention was an annual event for me. It was here that God called me, so clearly that I never doubted for one minute that FM was the place for me.

FM: *What has had the most impact on your life while working as a Faith Mission worker?*

David: Training under the leadership of the late Ken Buchanan and listening to a man of prayer praying for the work of the Mission and the work of God worldwide.

FM: Is there a project or accomplishment that you consider to be the most significant during your time in FM?

David: Working together practically as a team and seeing the opening of the new camp centres in Portadown and Durrow. When we stepped out in faith, we proved how God supplied the need of prayer support, man-power and finance. It was a powerful testimony to God's faithfulness when we saw the buildings completed debt-free.

FM: Knowing what you know now, what would you say to your younger self when you first started?

David: Give yourself wholeheartedly to the greatest privilege of serving the Lord while you have the strength to do so.

FM: What is the greatest blessing and greatest burden of being a wife and mother in full-time ministry?

Marjorie: We always shared our practical needs with our children, and they prayed with us that the Lord would supply. It was a real demonstration of God's faithfulness when they could see for themselves how God kept His promise to supply all our needs. As a ministry wife and mum, it was sometimes difficult to balance the needs of home, family and the work, but we proved over and over that if we put God and His kingdom first, His blessing would be upon us.

FM: What is the one thing you will miss most as a Faith Mission worker?

David: I would say the fellowship and prayer times with fellow workers and at Prayer Unions.

FM: Who is the person who has influenced your life the most?

David: What a privilege it was for me to be brought up in a Christian home. The greatest

influence on my life came from my parents for whom I can never thank God enough.

Marjorie: Aside from my parents and parents-in-law, who all demonstrated a great example of what Christian life should be, David has been a constant source of encouragement to me, and his prayer life has been a challenge.

FM: As you look back over your time in Christian work, what is the one thing you feel most grateful for?

Marjorie: The knowledge that God was with me and, even in my weakness and inadequacy, He was all I needed to walk the path He had chosen for me.

FM: What book, other than the Bible, has most influenced your life?

David: The book that influenced me most other than the Bible was 'Praying Hyde' through which I learned to battle in prayer for God's work.

Marjorie: The Isabel Kuhn books were a mighty challenge to me as a teenager, to give myself entirely to God and to seek to live a life of holiness. In later years, Elisabeth Elliot has raised a standard for family and devotional life that I aspire to.

FM: How will you use your time in retirement?

David: I see retirement as an opportunity to spend more time with and give help to my family, and pray for the work of God.

Marjorie: As a fairly new grandmother, I must admit to looking forward to enjoying more time with my family. We also hope to continue serving the Lord with various meetings and camps as He provides the strength. ●

SUMMER CAMP SUMMARIES

We thank God for wonderful answers to prayer at our camp. God was in our midst in a special way, especially in the meetings. The singing was “heavenly” and the children listened intently to the Word of God. Feedback from parents has been very encouraging. It was thrilling to hear of one boy telling his mum that he had sought the Lord as Saviour while at camp. Thank you for praying with us.

- *Andrew & Jenny McCullough*

Praise the Lord for His presence and protection at our camp in Edinburgh. We are thrilled that two young girls put their trust in Christ. One of the girls literally wept her way to Calvary. What an incredible joy to see her come to the Lord.

- *Gordon & Janice Thomson*

Although there was no outward response at our junior camp, a number of parents have said how much their children have benefitted. The teenagers at our teens camp listened well with questions asked and issues addressed in the quiet times. It was lovely to see one female camper from a non-Christian background, who trusted the Lord last year, going on with God. We had fifty people representing twelve different families along at our family camp. Many spoke of how much they appreciated the ministry and fellowship. - *Johnathan & Janet Slater*

We give God thanks for an excellent senior camp. The Bible teaching was very relevant and challenging and the presence of the Lord was real. Several young people spoke of having



received help. It was encouraging to have a number of new kids at our junior camp. It's a privilege to have input into their lives for a week, especially those with no church background. Pray for lasting fruit.

- *Donnie & Catherine Macleod*

We give God praise for a great week of camp. There was a sense of oneness among the campers and the participation in the meetings and quiet times was enthusiastic. There were particularly encouraging times with the teens. It was thrilling to see one young boy, whose parents were helping at the camp, give his heart to the Lord. He was so keen to tell everyone the next day! One of our teen campers testified how he came to camp this year as a backslider

and God met with him, bringing him back to Himself and setting him back on track for God.

- *William & Carolyn Harrison*

At our first week of camp we were very aware of God's help in every aspect. Two boys trusted Christ as Saviour, for which we give God the glory. Pray for the campers as some of them have gone back to a non-Christian environment in their homes. - *Alistair & Yvette Park*

We had an awesome teens Camp and are thankful to God for all He did. Many a light bulb moment was seen across the camp as campers began to realise how they could connect to God in a real way.

- *Jonny & Amy Lennox* •

SERVING GOD AT SUMMER CAMPS

Hello everyone! My name is Virginie Lufungula and I am from France. I grew up in a Christian family, going to church each Sunday, only because my family went. Every summer my church organises a children's camp. When I was sixteen, my mum signed me up as a cook's helper for this camp, but I couldn't understand why she did this. Looking back I know God brought me to the camp to help me understand what a Christian is. I sought God personally and found Him as my Saviour. Since then I know that God is present in my everyday life and I walk quietly with Him.

For the summer I wanted to do something to serve God. I decided to help with children's camps in Scotland and thought it would also be an opportunity to improve my English. I had heard about The Faith Mission from someone in my church. My family were worried about me



coming to the UK as it was my first time and also my first time to travel alone. However, they knew I wanted to serve God and prayed much for me.

I loved my time in Scotland, even though it was often raining! I thoroughly enjoyed helping at the camps and everyone made me feel welcome. Initially I was scared because of the language barrier but I prayed to God and He helped me find my place. The camp leaders were very supportive. God helped me to give my testimony to the teenagers, in English! I would definitely come back. The children showed me so much love and kindness. I made lots of new friends, had lots of moments of joy and laughter and great memories to bring back home. •

Fruit That Remains

Clonroot Prayer Union 50th Anniversary



*Mrs Agnes Newell with Rev William Park
and Andrew McCullough*

In the spring of 1969, Rev Shaun Clelland, the minister of Battlehill Methodist Church, invited the Faith Mission to conduct a gospel mission. This was a small country church, approximately two miles from Portadown in Northern Ireland. Faith Mission workers Eric Stewart and William Park began the meetings with 106 people present and continued for five weeks. There were also weekly children's meetings when up to fifty boys and girls eagerly came to hear God's Word. A youth meeting also took place on a Sunday afternoon which proved to be very popular. It was a busy time for all three men with a wide area being covered in visitation. From the start it was evident that God was at work in this rural community.

The beautiful county of Armagh is often referred to as the "Orchard County" due to the growth of Bramley apples. Driving along the rural roads you can see hundreds of trees neatly

lining the orchards. It is hoped that with careful management there will be a good harvest. In John 15:16 Jesus spoke of fruit that will remain and the Battlehill mission proved to be such a time. Over the five weeks, young and old responded to the gospel message with seventeen people being counselled for salvation and three for restoration. Many of God's people were also challenged and sought God for victory in their personal walk with Him.

Shortly after this mission a Prayer Union was formed, led by a local Christian couple, Bill and Agnes Newell. This provided fellowship and encouragement to those who had been recently converted. From this Prayer Union some entered into Christian work. There have been many changes over the years but the Prayer Union is still going strong with many committed members gathering on a fortnightly basis to pray. •

FAITH MISSION RESOURCES



The Faith Mission has two quarterly publications

First magazine contains Bible teaching, articles on Christian living, life stories, and information about FM outreach activities and missionaries

Prayer Diary gives daily points for prayer and praise, as well as Mission news and details of personnel

The annual subscription for First is £5.64
Prayer Diary is free of charge

hq@faithmission.org



FMBC Satellite Courses are held in Portadown, County Armagh, and Durrow, County Laois

admin@fmbiblecollege.org.uk

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Thinking of ordering some books online? Faith Mission Bookshops have their own website.

faithmissionbookshops.com



There are 20 **FM Bookshops** in Northern Ireland and Scotland

However, if you don't live near one of them, you can go online to find what you need

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Recordings from some of our recent Conventions are available online to listen or download for free
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