

The ECHO

Uniting Volunteers for Christ

Volume 20

November-December 1987

Number 6

The ECHO is a bi-monthly publication of the Tennessee State Association of Free Will Baptists. Editorial office, 2404 West End Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203. Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee. Raymond Riggs, Editor. Postmaster: send forms 3579 to ECHO, P.O. Box 49334, Algood, TN 38501.

TEN MISTAKES ABOUT THE GIFT OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES

Editor's Note: The following, written by Dennis A. Corle, is used by permission, and is something I believe that all our people need to know. -- *Raymond Riggs*

"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant."

Ignorance is a key word when the subject is "speaking in tongues." The Charismatic movement, as a whole, is built upon ignorance of the Scriptures. They continually quote isolated verses from Acts and I Corinthians. Paul deals with another crowd who had the same problem. They were not ignorant concerning the existence of spiritual gifts, but concerning the exercise of spiritual gifts. They were known as the carnal church, and the book of I Corinthians is a book of rebuke. The following list documents the rebuke in each chapter of I Corinthians.

1. Rebuke for strife and division.
2. For depending upon human wisdom.
3. For carnality and lack of spiritual growth.
4. For pride.
5. For corruption of morals.
6. For going to law against one another.
7. For homes being out of order.
8. For idolatry.
9. For not taking proper care of God's man.
10. For lustfulness, murmuring and compromise with demonic forces.
11. For abusing the Lord's table.
12. For abuse of spiritual gifts.
13. For immaturity and lack of love.
14. For glorying in tongue-speaking.
15. For heretical teaching on the resurrection.
16. For not being faithful and consistent in giving tithes and offerings.

It does not seem to me that these are the people I should try to emulate if my desire is to please God. The Charismatic movement is built upon this same fleshly emotionalism and ignorance of the scriptures that the Apostle Paul

rebuked in the first century. We need to shed the light of the scripture upon this issue and try to clear up some of the confusion it creates for new Christians.

MISTAKE #1: It is a mistake to think that speaking in tongues is essential for salvation. Not all Charismatics teach this, but, some do hold to the false doctrine that salvation is not complete unless a person has spoken in tongues. This is a quote from a tract concerning how to be saved that is distributed by the First Pentecostal Church of Jesus Christ: "1. Repent of your sins. 2. Be baptized in the name of Jesus. 3. Receive the infilling of the Holy Ghost, evidenced by speaking in other tongues... Salvation is not complete until these steps have been precisely followed." That is a far cry from what we find in John 3:16, John 5:24, John 1:1, or Acts 16:31. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13) They are truly guilty of the very thing they falsely accuse fundamentalists of, and that is legalism. Legalism is not the preaching of what the Bible teaches concerning obedience after salvation which includes standards of separation. Legalism is adding to the plan of salvation, such as "receiving Christ + baptism + an ecstatic tongues experience" in order to go to heaven. To teach that speaking in tongues is essential to salvation is heresy as well as a tragic mistake. Speaking in tongues is definitely not a necessary part of salvation.

MISTAKE #2: It is a mistake to assume that speaking in tongues is synonymous with the baptism of the Spirit. We are all baptized into one body by one Spirit according to I Corinthians 12, and yet Paul tells us in the same chapter that not all speak in tongues. "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be bond or free; and have all been made to drink into one Spirit." (vs. 13) "Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret?" (vs. 30) Though we all do not speak in tongues, we all do have the Holy Spirit if we have been saved. "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His." (Rom. 8:9) When a Charismatic reads in the Bible or hears

someone say "the Holy Spirit" he has been indoctrinated to think "tongues." In such a way has much scripture been twisted to convince people of this mistaken idea, but the Bible is clear that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is **NOT** synonymous with speaking in tongues.

MISTAKE #3: It is a mistake to assume that speaking in tongues is an evidence of being filled with the Spirit. How many times have you heard this worn-out cliché... "I've been filled with the Holy Ghost witnessed by speaking in tongues"? I always answer them: "I've been filled with the Holy Ghost, witnessed by boldness in soul-winning. I have a verse for mine, where's yours?" Just what is the evidence of Spirit-fulness? In Ephesians 5:18-19 it is Christ-centered music... "Be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord." That certainly does away with the gospel rock the tongues crowd is so fond of! Galatians 5:22,23 teaches: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." There are no ecstatic tongues to be found there.

Acts 1:18 teaches that the evidence of the Spirit's filling is boldness in soulwinning. "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." We find the same thing in Acts 4:31. "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness." There is no scripture to support the false teaching that tongues are an evidence of the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was filled with the Spirit, yet he never spoke in tongues. John the Baptist was filled with the Spirit but never spoke in tongues. Zacharias and Elisabeth were filled with the Spirit but never spoke in tongues, as well as Barnabas, the Spirit-filled deacons in Acts 6 and many others. The greatest soulwinners of the last two generations were Spirit-filled men, including Moody, Torrey, Spurgeon, Finney, Sunday, Rice, and Hyles. Not one of them ever had a tongues experience. It is definitely a mistake to equate Spirit-fulness with speaking in tongues.

MISTAKE #4: It is a mistake to assume that tongues are a sign of great faith or great spiritual depth. Quite to the contrary. Jesus rebuked the sign-seekers. "A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign..." Matthew 16:4. And that is exactly what tongues were in the Bible, a sign to the unbelievers. "Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not; but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe." (I. Cor. 14:22) It's been well said: "You don't need a vision if you've got a verse." People seek after signs because of their unbelief, not because of their great faith. Unsaved Catholics have spoken in tongues. Liberals who do not believe the vital doctrines of the Bible have spoken in tongues. Even homosexuals have spoken in tongues. It is a mistake to recognize tongues as a sign of faith or spirituality, since many who have spoken in tongues clearly have neither.

MISTAKE #5: It is a mistake to assume that speaking in tongues is commanded or promised. As a matter of fact,

the Apostle Paul discouraged the Corinthians from speaking in tongues. "Now brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine? So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? For ye shall speak into the air." Although it is in gross doctrinal error, many Charismatics teach that it is required and promised that we should speak in tongues. Here is an excerpt from some Charismatic material: **MUST I SPEAK IN TONGUES?**

"Yes, this is important! This is a gift from God, why should you refuse it? To refuse tongues is to refuse to yield yourself completely to God. If you will not yield completely, you cannot be used completely. It is important that you speak in tongues."

Yet there is nothing in the Bible to support anything of this nature.

A pastor friend of mine has a radio broadcast that comes on immediately after a Charismatic preacher who teaches the heresy that Christians **MUST** speak in tongues. One day my friend came on the radio and said, "Friends, today I am going to read every verse in the Bible that commands us to speak in tongues." After twenty seconds of silence he said, "Well, folks... that's all of them." He's right, too! No passage in all of the Bible commands believers to speak in tongues. Nevertheless, Charismatics insist that everyone should work up a false tongues experience. Some of their literature goes into detailed instruction.

"Raise your hands to the Lord, close your eyes and let your mind dwell on Jesus, be happy in Jesus, as you ask your Father in heaven for what He has promised you. Start praising His name, raise your voice to Him. He will not force you to speak in tongues. As the Lord places a strange word in your minds, speak it out boldly, repeat the word, the Holy Spirit will give you more words. Sometimes only a few words will come initially, but as you continue to speak forth in faith the Lord will give you a complete vocabulary with which to praise God."

Whoever came up with such ridiculous and unscriptural teaching as this got it out of the air, not the Bible. It is a huge mistake to believe that God commands or promises tongues for His people.

[The last five mistakes about speaking in tongues will appear in the next issue.]

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

If you have a change of address and wish to continue to receive the ECHO please send your change of address to us in advance, or else it will cost us 30¢ for each change we have to make. Send all correspondence re the ECHO to:

Rev. Raymond Riggs -- Editor
P.O. Box 49334
Algood, TN 38501

Bonds For Sale

Church bonds in denominations from \$250 to \$5,000 may be purchased from the Board of Retirement. All were issued by Free Will Baptist churches for building and expansion programs. Church Bonds are an excellent investment. Contact our office at (615) 361-1010.

Bible Studies -- written by a Free Will Baptist for Free Will Baptist laymen, laywomen and teens.

Each study contains several pages of background information as well as a verse-by-verse explanation, written in easy-to-follow outline form. A set of Review Questions follows the study, to help in remembering what has been learned.

These studies can be taken by individuals at home, with a sincere desire to learn, an "open Bible" and colored pencils to "make tracks" as you study.

They could also be used in group studies, by expanding on the information given and utilizing the Review Questions as homework.

Note from Editor: These Bible Studies are EXCELLENT! R.R.

Order from: M. M. Daniel
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Murfreesboro, TN 37130

PASS THE TORCH CONTINUES

Gifts to the Bible College amounted to \$383,452.62 at the first goal date of August 15 in the three million dollar Pass the Torch campaign. Tennessee was responsible for \$59,604.83 of that total. The goal for Tennessee was \$89,393.00 and the college deeply appreciates everyone who gave toward this amount.

The December 31 goal for Tennessee is \$166,753.00. The college encourages everyone and every church to work together toward that goal. It is hoped that this emphasis will result in the largest Christmas offering ever in the school's history.

ALLOCATIONS OF INCOME

TN Home Missions	977.58
Foreign Missions	371.03
Home For Children	185.51
TN Sunday School & Ct Bd	185.51
Promotional Office Coop	927.59
Promotional Office	1,268.09
National Coop	1,113.07
ECHO	50.00
50th Anniversary	520.00
TOTAL	5,598.38

This is the report for August and September 1987. Thank you for your generous gifts. All checks should be made payable to TN Association of Free Will Baptists and sent to Wallace Hayes, 305 Santa Rosa Dr., Old Hickory, TN 37138.

ECHO STATE RECEIPTS

Bethany	U	10.00
Bethlehem	C	170.00
Canah Chapel	A	320.00
Cookeville	L	150.00
Cumberland Asso.		109.72
Cross Timbers	C	50.00
Donelson	C	124.00
First, Church Hill	U	60.00
First, Oak Ridge	U	648.37
First, Sparta	U	30.42
Friendship	C	30.00
Good Springs	C	155.00
Grace, J.C.	A	1,621.46
Grace, Memphis	W T	50.00
Grace, Nashville		50.00
Head's	C	88.30
Holston Hills	U	376.18
Home For Children		75.00
Horton Heights	C	60.00
Johnson Chapel	U	360.56
Liberty Asso.		57.81
Limestone	U	125.00
North Memphis	W T	50.00
Oaklawn	C	20.00
Peace, Morristown	U	50.00
Pleasant Hill	C	50.00
New Hope	C	50.00
Richland	C	69.03
Smyrna	C	50.00
Trinity, Nashville	C	55.00
Union Asso.		138.78
Union St	NE	150.00
Watauga Valley		100.00
Wooddale	U	43.75
Individuals		50.00
TOTAL		5,598.38

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS : BOARD ELECTIONS

Two new members were elected to the National Home Missions Board at the July convention in Birmingham. Rev. Wendell Walley, pastor of East Nashville FWB Church, Nashville, Tennessee, and Rev. Nathan Ruble, pastor of Fourth FWB Church, St. Louis, Missouri, will serve replacing Rev. Hobart Ashby and Rev. Bill Johnson. Rev. Rue Dell Smith and Rev. Richard Adams were both reelected for second terms.

NEW MISSIONARIES

Three new missionary families were employed by the National Home Missions Board at its meeting in Birmingham. Those employed were Rev. and Mrs. Dennis Keen, joint project workers to Charleston, South Carolina; Rev. and Mrs. Tim Hackett, joint project workers to Bloomington, Indiana; and Rev. and Mrs. Joe Rager, replacement workers for Elkhart, Indiana.

TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE

Founder and Pastor John Lindsley with his wife Sadie were honored for twenty years of spiritual service to the Hendersonville Free Will Baptist Church in Hendersonville, TN on Sunday, September 27, at the church's annual homecoming. The Lindsleys, the Home Mission Board of the Cumberland Association of Free Will Baptists, and a number of interested people met to organize the church on January 15, 1967, at the Hendersonville High School. Brother Lindsley was a teacher and principal in the county school system before pastoring the church full time. He retired as pastor of the church this past May. He is now involved in supply work for preachers of the Northern Quarterly of the Cumberland Association of Free Will Baptists.

The picture (from left to right) involves Brother John Lindsley and wife Sadie, being congratulated for twenty years of spiritual service by new pastor Eddie Hodges.



HOME FOR CHILDREN

Greetings from the Free Will Baptist Home for Children. Thank you for the support you have given to the Home with your prayers and finances. It is folks like you that have provided a place for needy children since 1939.

God's blessings have always been with the Home in its ministry. This has been a good year for us here at the Home. We have in care 32 children, having cared for 59 his year.

We have a wonderful staff and we are taking applications for new employees. If you would be interested in working with children, write to us and we will send you an application.

Keep us on your prayer list.



WOMEN IN ACTION

by Jane Bailey

During September 24-26 approximately 140 ladies attended the Tennessee Woman's Auxiliary Convention retreat at Smokey Shadows Conference Center in Pigeon Forge. The ladies enjoyed a time of fun, fellowship and inspiration. Speakers were Rachel Crawford, June Critcher, Marcia Ellison, Anne Worthington, Lorene Miley, Laura Thigpen and Phyllis Reed. Song leader and pianist were Judy Fritts and Winona Riggs, respectively. Ladies from Millington, Knoxville, and Limestone provided special music. Judy Fritts also helped set the atmosphere of the retreat by providing decorations with sea net, sea shells, and a large picture drawn of a merchant ship with the theme title "Woman: Like Merchants' Ships". An offering of \$486 was received to be divided between the accounts of Dawn Sweeney and Marcia Ellison.

Ida Lewis, TWAC treasurer, reports that \$1559 has been received toward the state project (\$2000 for Jim & Evelyn Teague's account) and \$425 for the Eunice Edwards fund. We are behind on these goals. Won't your auxiliary mail a special offering this month toward these projects?

Please contact any of your TWAC officers if we can be of help to you or your auxiliary. May God bless you as you serve Him.

Benevolent Fund Update

Delegates at the July, 1987 session of the National Association in Birmingham, Alabama received an offering of approximately \$2,000 and made pledges for an additional \$10,000 toward unpaid medical claims for our pastors. The unpaid claims resulted from the bankruptcy of Garrett-Street and Associates.

A Benevolent Fund Committee to raise money to pay those claims was established by the delegates at the National Association in Little Rock, Arkansas. At the present time the fund owes a note to First American National Bank for \$15,000 which was borrowed to finish paying the claims. The offering and pledges received in Birmingham are to be applied to this debt.

About 18 months after the Garrett-Street bankruptcy, the Christian Organizations Medical Society (COMS) failed, leaving more of our pastors with unpaid medical claims. The amount owing on these claims is approximately \$51,000. After the note for the Garrett-Street claims at First American National Bank is paid, the Benevolent Fund Committee will continue its fund raising efforts to pay the claims from the COMS failure.

Will you help to relieve this financial burden on our pastors? We need your help and the help of your church, Sunday school class, Master's Men, and Woman's Auxiliary. Pray about this matter and send your check as soon as possible to FWB Benevolent Fund, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202. These brethren need your help now.

Church Loans

Need funds for a church building or expansion program? Church loans are available from the Board of Retirement. For information call (615) 361-1010.

STATELY SPEAKING

by Raymond Riggs



COMING TO CLOSE -- That is, this calendar year is almost over. Before another issue of ECHO you will have celebrated two important Holidays, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Please allow Mrs. Riggs and I to wish for each of you a

"Blessed" time of rich fellowship with your family and friends. Thanks to each of you who invited us to your church this year, and especially for praying for us, and the support you have given to the State Office, and our Evangelistic Ministry.

The following report will be given at the State Association, and we would like to share it with you because many of you who read the ECHO have helped to make this report possible through your prayers and financial support.

Revivals -- 25 -- in 13 different states -- 6 in Tennessee.
Decisions -- 150 -- Plus 73 Commitments from young people.

Supplied -- 10 times -- Quarterly Mtgs. Attended -- 4.
ECHO -- 6 issues -- @ 4,000 each time.

Mail Outs to Ministers -- 5 -- to 250 preachers each time.
Attended "All Boards" Meeting, Christian Worker's Retreat, Bible Conference, Leadership Conference, Executive Committee of National Association, Woman's State Auxiliary Retreat, and served on the General Board of the National Association.

I also visited 6 different churches in the interest of our State Work, and mailed out many resumes from preachers seeking pastorates, plus phone calls too numerous to mention. It was also a joy to work with Pastors Jeff Lankford and Wayne Bess in making the necessary arrangements for the 50th Anniversary of our State Association.

Incidentally, I hope you will join with us in saluting the 18 different men who have served as moderator of our State Association during the last 50 years.

Happy, Healthy and Hopeful Holidays!
Bro. Raymond and Winona Riggs

FROM OUR MISSIONARIES

Paul & Rhoda Creech -- Japan -- "The month of August was very enjoyable for us. It was the Japanese school vacation, so our work load was lightened. Also we spent time with Donnie & Ruth McDonald and Debbie Griffin who came up from Tokyo to get a break from their language studies. Every day we experienced something different!"

Dawn Sweeney -- Three years in France -- "My second term of service and subsequent terms will be spent in the Ivory Coast instead of France. This decision was approved by the Board of Foreign Missions in May. Lord willing, I will be involved in the medical and evangelism ministry in Doropo."

Louie Nix Family -- Hawaii -- "We have finally arrived on the field here on the island of Kauai Hawaii. The need is even greater than we had thought. We are staying in a couple's basement until we find a place to live. Kekaha is growing so fast there isn't sufficient housing. This has

happened since I was here last October. This also means more souls to witness to."

James & Janice Sasser -- Home Missionaries -- Waldorf, Maryland -- "I wish you could be here and see what the Lord is doing in our church and how He is honoring your gifts and prayers. A lady recently walked the aisle for Christ that we had been praying for for three months. Her husband was saved about three or four months ago. Her husband was a Jew. New babes in Christ are as exciting to be around as new babies in the home!"

Gwyn Pugh -- Millington, TN -- "As of our first six months here, a miracle offering by the members has brought us up to date with the bond payments. Offerings now cover all expenses except the pastor's salary. This is the present challenge to Liberty Free Will Baptist Church."

Glenn Poston -- Memphis, TN -- "I wish that you could see our new property. We have had some grading done and have put up a sign announcing our future plans. If Jesus tarries, we will one day have a Free Will Baptist church on this property. Please help us pray that God will provide the resources with which to pay the land debt as soon as possible. We must pay the \$90,000 indebtedness before we can build. Until then, the daycare center that we are using is working out beautifully. We have a good relationship with our landlords and plan to stay there until we have our own building."

Frank Breeden Resigns Bible College Staff

Nashville, Tennessee -- Frank Breeden, Director of Student Support for Free Will-Baptist Bible College, resigned from the staff October 8, 1987. The decision was made "after much prayer, careful consideration and thought," he says.

He is leaving the college to become director of church choral music marketing for Lexicon-Spectra Music Company of Nashville.

The Office of Student Support opened in January 1986, with Mr. Breeden as its first director. He also directed the Bible College's new \$3 million "Pass The Torch" campaign. He began his affiliation with the college, working as public relations assistant with the late Paul Ketteman, after graduating from FWBBC in 1978.

Mr. Breeden expressed his appreciation for the Bible College and for the confidence of President Thigpen during his time of service. "I pledge my friendship to this institution and will do what I can to lift her name high as I minister to the broader church in my new ministry," he said in his letter of resignation.

He will continue to serve in his present position through November 8, 1987.

President Thigpen said, "I am grateful for the more than 10 years that Frank Breeden has been a part of the Public Relations team of the college." He went on to say, "He has traveled thousands of miles and conducted hundreds of services for the college. He has laid a good foundation for the *Pass The Torch* campaign. I am confident that all of us here and our many friends will carry it through to victory."

The President asked that friends of the college pray for the administration and the board of trustees as they ask the Lord's guidance concerning a replacement for Mr. Breeden.

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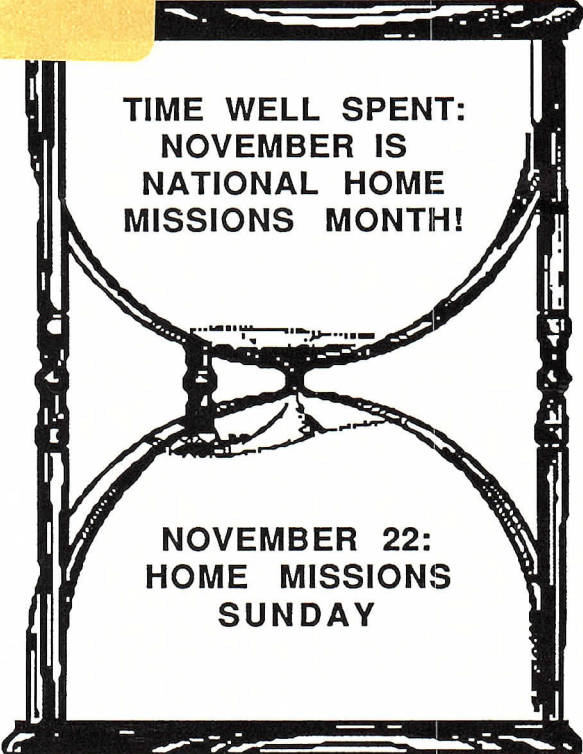
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**TIME WELL SPENT:
NOVEMBER IS
NATIONAL HOME
MISSIONS MONTH!**

**NOVEMBER 22:
HOME MISSIONS
SUNDAY**

We challenge your church to give a special offering, and you as individuals to give a sacrificial offering on National Home Missions Sunday. These gifts will help build Free Will Baptist churches on the North American continent and U.S.-owned islands. Send gifts to:

National Home Missions
P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202

