

Dear Mom,

I've been thinking a lot about what you told me when we talked a couple weeks ago. You make it sound like it's such an easy thing to do, but, well, I just can't buy it, I guess. I know that's pretty much why you sent me here, so that maybe something might happen. But some of the people here are so two-sided. I mean, one day they treat you real nice and all, and the next it's as if they don't even care. That sort of thing turns me off. I thought Christians were supposed to love people all the time, not just when they felt like it.

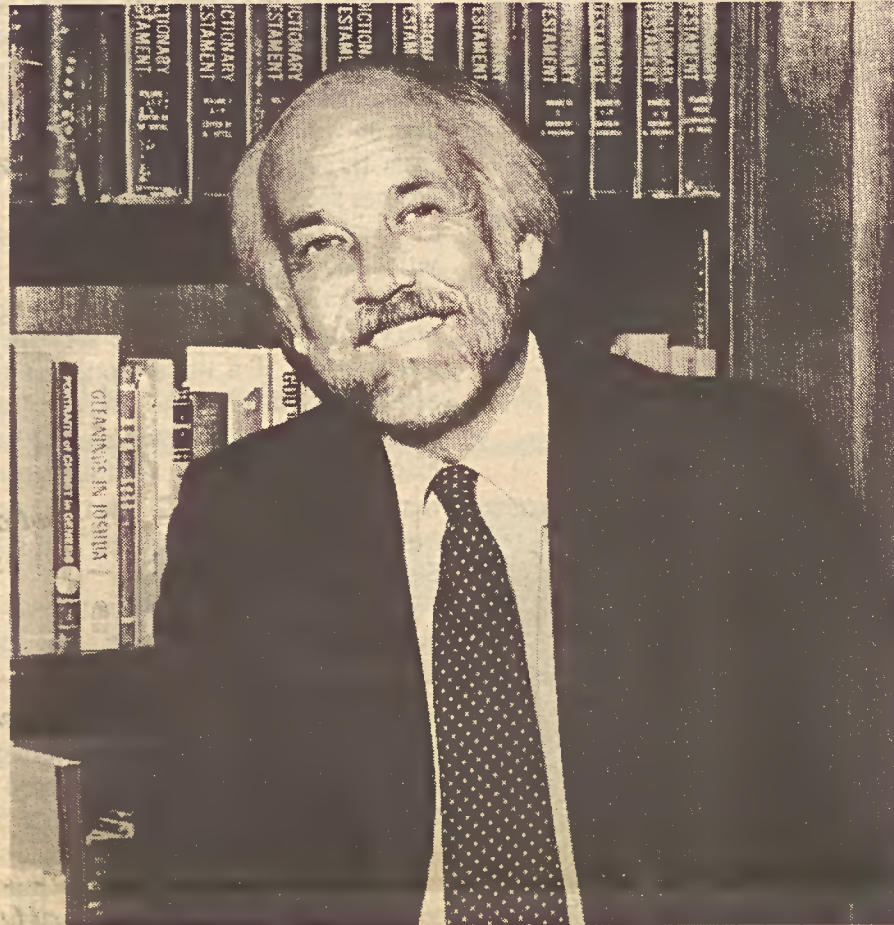
At the end of February, a guy named Stephen Brown preached the Staley Lecture Series. You've probably heard of him, because he's a good speaker. I thought he was great. Anyway, he talked about how Christians are supposed to love the unloveable and all that. I wanted to stand up and yell, "What about here? Why don't they love the unloveable here?" Because, Mom, it's like all the Christians hang around in one big group. They hardly ever inner mix with the "unsaved." Sometimes it seems like they're just another clique. There's the stuck-up-nose-in-the-air-worship-me-or-die kind of people, the jocks, the party-ers, the social recluses; and then there's the Christians. Sure, I have some really great friends who are saved, and I like them a lot. I'm not saying that all the Christians here are like that, but even if there's one hypocrite Christian, don't you think that's one too many?

Rev. Brown gave me a lot to think about, Mom, he really did. I know you're probably surprised I even bothered to listen, but I couldn't help it. He got hold of my attention as soon as he started speaking in that strong, booming voice of his. One of the things I got out of his talks was that each individual, no matter who he is, is loved by Christ. I was glad to hear about that, because sometimes I feel like you have to belong to a group or something to be loved by Christ.

Yes, I know you say it's a personal relationship and all that. But how can I

# I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT IT

by John Smith



Dr. Stephen Brown

believe in something I don't even see? Rev. Brown told about some lady who had never known Christ, who had never gone to church. When she found out that her son had some big kind of disease, she looked upward and started cursing God. And then she heard a voice which said, "That's the first time you've ever spoken to me." As you can imagine, she got saved. Why can't something like that ever happen to me? If it did, I'd become a Christian in a second. I swear I would.

But Rev. Brown said God doesn't always work like that. I wish I knew exactly how he worked. God's kind of

wierd in that way, don't you think, Mom? He does whatever He wants, wherever he wants, and however he wants. Do you think God is like an untamed lion? Rev. Brown compared him to Aslan the Lion in the Chronicles of Narnia--I had to read those books for English--and it made sense in a way, I guess. Aslan was supposed to be God--frightening and loving. I wish I knew Him, Mom, and that's the truth. He's just so complex, and I'm so simple. If I could understand how He worked, I'd become a Christian just like that, I really would.

I mean, if God is so good and all,

why does he let innocent people, good Christians, suffer? Tell me that, Mom. At the beginning of the year, some guy here said that people suffer because their faith isn't right with God. I went to my room and almost started crying. But Rev. Brown said he believes that when a pagan gets cancer, or heart disease or something, so does a Christian. When something bad happens to a pagan, something bad happens to a Christian. So the world can see the difference. That really picked me up. And I remembered that when Grandma was dying, she was always smiling, and she was always praising God.

I wish you could have heard him, Mom. He was an excellent speaker. He walked around on stage instead of staying in one place, and that was good. His voice was deep and loud, and he held just about everyone's attention. On the first night, for the benediction, he said something like, "May those who don't know you, Lord, feel an emptiness in their heart, and be not at peace with themselves," and--I'll admit it--I felt just like he said.

He said a lot of things that people didn't agree with, but I'm sure everyone still liked him. He was funny, and I always thought of you when he told a joke or something, because I know how much you like to laugh and all. You would have laughed whenever he said, with his voice rising and then dropping again, "They call him Reverend, and he's not," because he said it so much, and in the exact same rising and dropping tone.

But he was good. He always ended his sermons by saying, "You think about that," and I have been thinking about it. I know there's a God up there, but I just can't get to know Him. Maybe someone here will finally convince me one of these days. If praying helps, Mom, keep doing it. Maybe I will come to know Him after all.

I guess that's about it. Just thought I'd let you know I have been doing a lot of thinking. Just like you asked me to do.

See you soon, love you, and tell Dad I said hello.

## GET INVOLVED!

Dear Dad,

No mon,  
No fun.

Your Son.

Dear Son,

Too bad,  
So sad.

Your Dad.

I'm sure most people have heard this poem, probably straight from the mouth of your father. You say, "Hey I'm

a working man." But admit it, money is dragging you down.

It's hard to have fun with little or no money. So get up and let's use our imagination! Wait a minute! Maybe we won't have to think too hard because there's an Activities Committee thinking of fun (on call 24 hrs. a day). Not only are activities being provided

for us but with little or no cost.

Let's face it, we're a music oriented society. This is a rock boppin' campus. From clogging to African tribal dances- it never stops and it won't with your continual rock boppin'

support.

For all you beach bums, surfers and chill fans, we've got something for you! It's been a long time you have had to hold out, but not anymore! March 27th (visitation weekend) there will be a *Sock Hop 50's Dance* in the gym with a spectacular DJ to stimulate your spontaneity! No, it doesn't stop! Saturday, March 28th **The Mid-South Boys** will be in concert live in Gaither Chapel. It keeps going! April 10th, **The Spring Choral** will be in concert in Gaither. And finally the Grand Finale to please your listening ears, there will

be the *Annual Spring Formal* along with the Spring Fest Activities on April 11th, Saturday night!

Don't let grass grow under your feet! Get involved and your problems will be solved!

Any questions of comments-contact Melinda Taylor or even more wonderful come to the Activities Meeting each Monday at 3:00 pm in the Art classroom.

Sincerely yours,

Melinda Taylor  
Activities Chairman