

Sunday School Lesson

Proclaiming The Gospel

International Sunday School Lesson for May 14, 1972. LESSON TEXT: Luke 4:16-21; Romans 10:14-18; Ephesians 3:7-13.

The role of the Church is primarily to proclaim the Gospel. Our Lesson today, centered in the Book of Luke, is concerned with the method and circumstance of proclamation, while that part of it which lies in Romans emphasizes the responsibility of the preacher, and that of the listener.

In Luke 4 we find Christ proclaiming His Messiahship. He had been sent by God to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to captives, to recover the sight of the blind, to set at liberty those who were "bruised".

All during His lifetime Christ made a practice of attending the Synagogue. Luke's accounting encompasses a certain specific visit to the Synagogue in Nazareth. During this visit, Christ took the opportunity to proclaim the Gospel. To those who were suffering under various adversities, He brought the good news of relief...release...recovery. These were the messages contained in Christ's preaching throughout the land of Galilee.

The use of the Synagogues became a focal point in the ministry of Paul and other disciples. They were a gathering point from which the Gospel was dispensed.

"Whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved". . . Romans 10, verse 13. Note the "WHOSOEVER"! It encompasses Jew and Gentile alike--all men! Belief was the key which would open the door to salvation! And it was the bounden duty of all those who participated in this gift to share it with others.

As individuals, we who profess to be Christians have the responsibility of answering God's call when it comes to us. . . no matter what the circumstances of the place. But the responsibility of the Church lies in making that call heard.

The Church--the focal point of the proclamation of the Gospel--cannot afford to be discouraged if the results of its work appear meager. Not all who heard Christ, responded, nor those who heard His disciples! Yet the Christian movement spread, and grew. . . nourished by the dedicated faith of a few!

From this we see that the Church--the focal point of the proclamation of the Gospel--cannot afford to be discouraged if the results of its work appear meager. Not all who heard Christ, responded, nor those who heard His disciples! Yet the Christian movement spread, and grew. . . nourished by the dedicated faith of a few!

good news of the Gospel cannot be suppressed! It survived the cross at Calvary; it proclaimed itself in the Resurrection!

For the Gospel has a life-giving power that is unique in itself. The Gospel can do for people what nothing else can do. . . it can sustain and enlighten, at one and the same time. In the hands of a truly effective preacher the Gospel can bring immeasurable blessings into countless lives.

How precious to us those who preach in our churches are! For they are the voice of Christ, reaching out into the dark which surrounds us! In our lives they project the living Christ, bringing us comfort and courage. They are the instruments of communication, without whom we might, indeed, be lost!

Fortunately for us, the professing Christians, the gentle art of sharing is not confined to those who have received the call; we can share of ourselves, of the good news of our beliefs, as we go about our daily tasks. We can, in effect, witness for Christ by our own conduct, by our own sensitivities, thus lending credence to what our Church has to say to the world in general!

We can become "proclaimers of the Gospel"!

(These comments are based on outlines of the International Sunday School Lessons, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, and used by permission).



35 Trucks Were On Scene Of Apartment Fire, As Flames Leap Skyward!

Letters To The Editor Critic's Choice!

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you concerning a certain article that appears in your paper each week. The article I'm referring to is the Grover News by Jackie Rountree. I'm sorry to say this but I felt someone must, it's one of the worst I've ever read. I'm not a literary great myself, but I feel even I could do that well if not better. I would suggest some improvement or think of something new to write about.

Yours truly,

Kathrine Hallman

P.S. I think as a whole you're doing very well with your paper.

Thank you, Kathrine. Comments about our editorial matter are almost always appreciated, and I'm sure Jackie won't mind either, since another reader told her her column is better than Kays Gary's! We appreciate your interest.

Editor

What Price Protection?

Dear Editor

While the average American family enjoys the peace and comfort of their homes tonight, thousands of dedicated men patrol the nation's streets and highways providing protection for us all. Those thousands are the police officers, many of which are literally giving their lives so that we may feel reasonably safe from being murdered, raped, robbed, or maimed by the vicious elements of our society. In recent weeks we have witnessed the tragic news of still more of our young police officers being killed in the line of duty. How many more must pay this supreme price before the general public wakes up and takes action to prevent these tragedies from occurring again and again.

For a number of years now police have been exposed to adverse dangers much of which has been brought on by weak court decisions, and the lack of concern by public officials responsible for the safe and efficient operation of police agencies. Many public officials still classify police officers in the same category salary-wise and equipment-wise to sanitation workers, gas department employees, truck drivers, etc. If you doubt this check your local police department to see how salaries and equipment compare with other city functions. In addition to police officers being exposed to great dangers at ridiculously low pay, police administrators and public officials still require these men to ride by themselves while on patrol. How many of these public officials would expose themselves to these dangers? Few if any!

It's time we realize that we are at war with the criminal elements and do something about it. Is it right to require so much of so few to protect so many at this price? Laws need to be passed requiring any motorist stopped for a violation or a routine traffic check to step from his car and make himself visible to the police officer. The practice of requiring an officer to walk up to the driver's side exposing himself to some unbalanced individual who may kill him in attempting to escape apprehension should be stopped. Put yourself in the officer's place, would you walk up to a strange individual at 2 a.m. by yourself?

If you believe it's time for action to be taken in behalf of our police officers, let it be known. The price some are paying for protection is far too high.

Sincerely,

Dick Shaney



Buildings Were Ablaze When Firemen Arrived - Len Lynch Photos

Wins Service Award

Clarence Earle, service manager for Wade Ford was notified last week that he was the winner of a Bronze Medallion Service Award for general excellence in the management of the service department at Wade Ford.

The award will be presented at a banquet in Charlotte to be attended by he and his wife. The award was made by H. H. Pharr, District Manager for Ford Motor Company, Customer Director.



CLARENCE EARLE

NEWS VIEWS

Richard Nixon, President, in honor of the late FBI Chief: "Every American owes J. Edgar Hoover a great debt of gratitude. . ."

Edmund Muskie, presidential candidate: "My decision to withdraw from the primaries was forced by diminishing results and diminishing resources."

Warren Burger, Chief Justice, on justice system: "I am going to continue to fight to get from Congress what the district and circuit judges need."

George McGovern, Democratic Presidential candidate: "I can't mourn when one of the competitors steps to the sidelines."

Jerome H. Jaffe, M.D., Government drug specialist: "We have seen some remarkable changes in addicts with a varied number of religious approaches."

Gardner-Webb Graduation Is Set For Sunday

Two hundred and seventy-seven graduates will be awarded degrees at commencement exercises at Gardner-Webb College Sunday, May 14. Two well-known North Carolina Baptist denominational workers will speak on graduation day. The services will be held in the Bost Physical Education Building.

Rev. Ernest C. Upchurch, state director, City and Metropolitan Missions Department, Baptist State Convent-

ion of North Carolina, will bring the baccalaureate address Sunday morning at 11 o'clock and Rev. Coy C. Privette, pastor, North Kannapolis Baptist Church, Kannapolis, will be the graduation speaker at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Rev. Upchurch is a native of Cleveland County and a graduate of Gardner-Webb and Wake Forest University.

Troops 91 And 415 Make Trip To Steel Creek

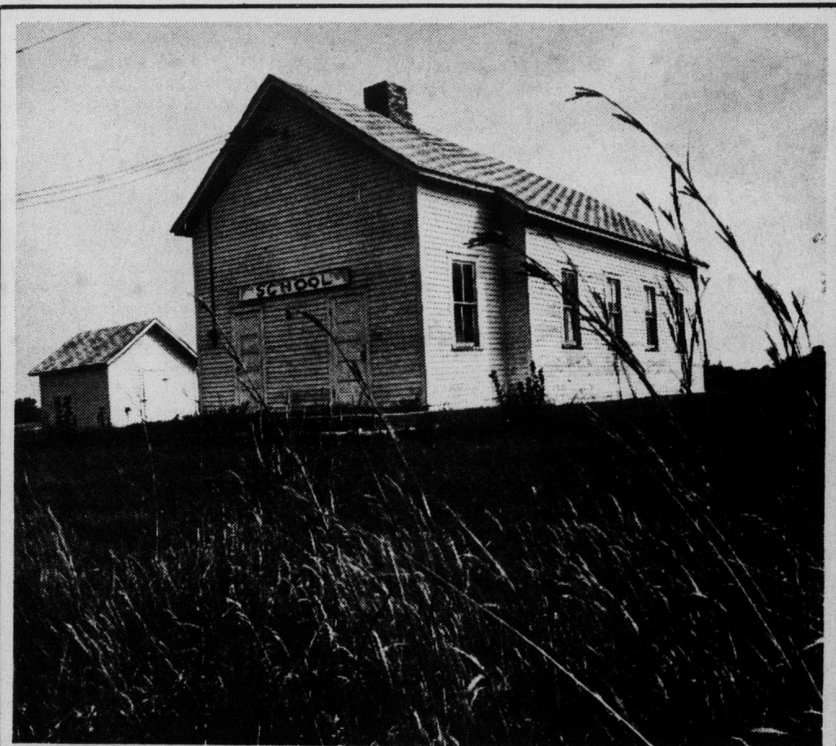
On April 16th Troops 91 and 415 made a trip to Steel Creek and while there made a 10-mile hike, had lunch, and saw a cub bear! Leaders on this trip were John Cain, Eugene Lefevers, Thurman Burns, Otis Falls, Jr., and Rickey Falls.

Troops 91 and 415 attended Camporee on the 28, 29 and 30 of April. Eugene Lefevers, Ken Smith, and John Cain were the Scoutmasters responsible for the Scout awards and ribbons. In June, the Scouts will be taking orders from a TOM-WAT Showcase, the items they will be selling are household items. The money will be used for equipment, training aids and expenses for making camping trips.

1st Baptist To Present Music

All ages are represented as the graded choirs of First Baptist Church, Kings Mountain, present an Evening of Music, Sunday, May 14, 7:30 P.M.

Some choirs feature instruments along with the singing, and one group will do a hymn interpretation using pantomime.



Over one fourth of our population lacks enough education and training to get a good job.

And education is just one of their problems. These North Carolinians suffer from discrimination, housing and transportation problems, lack of child-care facilities, and poor health as well.

Something is being done about it. The Department of Community Colleges has spread a manpower services program which started at Lenoir Community College to five other institutions.

In the future, all 56 of the State's community colleges will have such a program. And the increased taxes paid by the graduates who find employment will pay back the cost of their training in less than five years.

As corporate citizens, we are concerned about Carolina Country. Write us. We can tell you more about manpower services in North Carolina.



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