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Evangel Tabernacle

file
Assembly of God

W.L. RODGERS, PASTOR
5400 MINORS LN. • LOUISVILLE, KY. 40219

CHURCH OFFICE	964-3384
DAY CARE	968-5451
NURSING HOME	964-3381
GRADE SCHOOL	968-7744
HIGH SCHOOL	966-3171
BOOKSTORE	968-7744
HOTLINE	966-8121

May 4, 1981

Mr. Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to President
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

We are a church of approximately 4,000 members including 500 foreign speaking people, Laotians, Koreans, and Hmong, with interpreters for each group. We definitely support the President's policy on prayer, morality, his stand on Human Rights, and his compassion for peoples of other nations.

Our church is a church of prayer and we will take an active part in the President's National Day of Prayer on May 7. We have hundreds of people who are participating in a twenty-four hour chain-of-prayer. We also have daily prayer meetings in the church beginning at 5:00 a.m. and 80 prayer groups meeting weekly in the homes.

We are in the process of developing Prayer Mountain, where people can go and spend as many hours or days as they like in communion with God. We are building a tabernacle and prayer grottos for their use.

On May 7, we will have continual prayer throughout the day here at the church, beginning at 5:00 a.m. and climaxing with our evening worship service from 7:30 p.m. until approximately 9:30 p.m. Our prayer partners will continue praying throughout the night.

Sincerely,

W. L. Rodgers

W. L. Rodgers, Pastor
Evangel Tabernacle

WLR:dh

M Blackwell

Life

First Assembly of God

700 West Braddock Road
Alexandria, VA 22302
(703) 548-0839
549-5646

Thomas F. Gulbronson, D. Min.
Pastor

Darrell L. Dement
Minister of Youth and Music

C. S. Burnell, Jr.
Business Manager

July 21, 1981

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

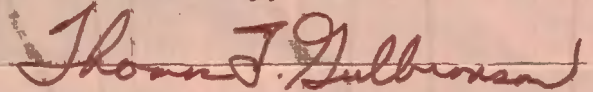
Dear Mr. President,

I wish to thank you for the recent invitation that Elizabeth Dole ~~extended to me to attend the briefing on your economic program.~~ It represents your concern for all Americans to be apprised of your position.

Mr. President, I agree completely with your budget cuts. It is very refreshing to view our president making decisions for the betterment of our nation, regardless of the political consequences. Thank you and may you continue to take courage.

Sir, our prayers are with you. May God bless and keep you, and your fine family.

Sincerely,



Thomas F. Gulbronson,
D. Min.

TFG/mgu

TO: FILE ROOM
FROM: CORRESPONDENCE ANALYSIS

Jim Law

REQ. FOR ☒ ANY or entire File
☐ Letter referred to

7/24

☐ Secret Service Case
☐ File
☒ No previous File
☒ Sent to
not ackd. by White House
☐ See attached

DISPOSITION OF FILE

☐ Anne Higgins
☐ Reply Processing
☐ Referral Section
☐ Special Ltr. Unit
☐ ID for review
☐ WH Staff

DATE _____

FILE NO. _____

NAME _____



2H
MAY 29 RECD

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

1445 BOONVILLE AVENUE

SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65802

THOS. F. ZIMMERMAN
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

May 26, 1982

TELEPHONE
(417) 862-2781

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Dole
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Dole:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending the information about the proposed amendment to the Constitution making possible voluntary prayer in the public schools. This is a matter about which I have deep concern, and I feel I have been greatly helped by the material which you sent.

Please feel free to furnish further information as you feel would enhance our efforts in behalf of this legislation.

Most sincerely yours,


Thos. F. Zimmerman
General Superintendent

TFZ/bw

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 24, 1982

Dear Mr. Zimmerman:

Thank you for your letter of support in regard to voluntary school prayer.

Every effort you make in support of the Voluntary School Prayer Amendment will be of great importance. It is through the efforts of you and many other Americans that this amendment will become law.

Please keep me informed of your work. If there is any information my staff or I can provide for you, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Mr. Thos. F. Zimmerman
General Superintendent
The General Council of the Assemblies of God
1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, MO. 65802



THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

1445 BOONVILLE AVENUE
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65802

THOS. F. ZIMMERMAN
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

TELEPHONE
(417) 862-2781

June 3, 1982

*File
prayer
in school*

*Draft nice
letter at
thanks for
support.*

Mr. Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Thank you for your letter of May 27 in which you share information concerning the submission of the President's proposed Voluntary School Prayer Amendment in both houses of Congress.

We will certainly use our channels of communication to solicit support for this important measure.

Sincerely yours,



Thos. F. Zimmerman
General Superintendent

TFZ/bw

Refer to Morton B.

Ollie Morris } would July briefing
Barr

Rev. Stan Wachtstetter
450 S. Franklin Road
Indianapolis, IN 46219

File

August 7, 1983

Mr. Bob Sweet
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Bob:

Christian Greetings.

Everyone had a truly great time in D.C. thanks to your help! The visit was inspirational, informative as well as entertaining. It was great! Talking with the brothers after the visit, I can assure you that President Ronald Reagan is openly and strongly supported within the Assemblies of the Lord Jesus Christ. The church caught a real vision during the July 12th meeting.

Rev. Don Johnson has designated me as the person to continue working in this area of promotion. Thank you for making me look so good! From what we have now, it is my desire to build a wider group of involvement. I would like to take the group that attended as a nucleus and involve leaders from a variety (between 10-15) of the Apostolic groups. Bro. Johnson has suggested a meeting in late October of about 40 leaders. Please confirm as soon as possible, if I can proceed in contacting those we want to bring for a briefing.

I appreciate all the efforts you put forward during our last visit, even though our requests were sometimes unfair. During this next projected visit I can assure you that what we want is only a briefing. As much as we enjoyed the White House tour, there will be no such requests.

I am working to build a coalition of all the Apostolic groups and ultimately desire a third meeting that will relate with the 130 Oneness church groups and approximately one to two million adherents. Phase two of pulling all these things together will involve a briefing at the White House (O.E.B.) and at that meeting the approval of a monthly news letter.

Again, let me assure you that Apostolics will be involved in this next general election. Let me volunteer help with anyone at your end in providing information for fund raising and votes in an "Apostolic Ministers for Ronald Reagan" as the next election comes closer.

I have been moved; I will be in Indianapolis on August 12 and 13 if you care to call me at 317-898-2745.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Stan'.

Rev. Stanley Wachstetter

SW/cmb

P.S. Are you related to the prominent Church Historian, William Sweet? After September 1, 1983, I will be teaching at Apostolic Bible College in Memphis, Tennessee. This will make me more centrally located.



THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

1445 BOONVILLE AVENUE

SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65802

THOS. F. ZIMMERMAN
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

February 11, 1983

TELEPHONE
(417) 862-2781

Dr. Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Dr. Blackwell:

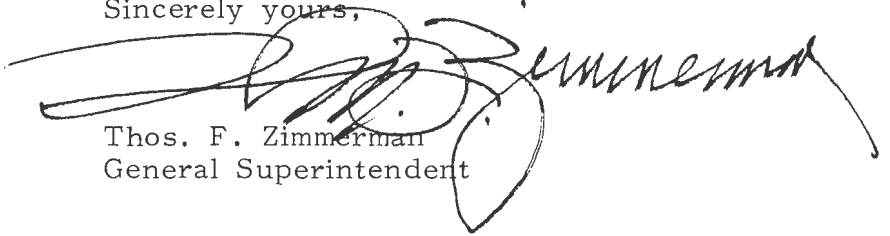
Sincere greetings!

Thank you sincerely for your kindness in sending to me a copy of President Reagan's address to the National Religious Broadcasters. I certainly do appreciate this, and wish that the President might know of our genuine appreciation for not only what he said, but for the evident clearcut stand he has taken on a number of moral issues. He is to be commended, and we are requesting that our constituency across the United States will recommit themselves to daily prayer for the President and those who work with him.

Thank you for the excellent influence which you have had personally through the past two years.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,


Thos. F. Zimmerman
General Superintendent

TFZ/bw

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 18, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR GINA BESSEY

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL 
SUBJECT: Assembly of God Schedule Proposal

I have only recommended Presidential events which I thought were highly desirable. Many excellent meetings have received a negative recommendation because they were not of highest priority.

A numerical rating system is difficult to use effectively. I presume if "1" means the very highest priority, that "10" means there would be absolutely no reason for the President to participate. Would this mean that a "6" would indicate in my judgment the President should attend?

I can use the 1 - 10 system, however, as follows:

1. Category 1 would mean that it would be embarrassing for the President not to attend. Such an event would be the 1983 VFW Convention. Having spoken to the 1983 American Legion event, it would be politically disastrous to miss the VFW Convention.
2. Category 2 would be an event it would be foolish to pass up if the President's participation is at all possible.
3. Category 3 would be excellent opportunities for the President to speak but which could be missed for higher priority events.

Below that I wouldn't recommend that the President participate. It makes no sense to suggest that the President attend things just because it would be nice for him to do so. There is too much demand on his time.

Is this numbering system o.k.? If so, I give the Assemblies of God a strong Category 3.

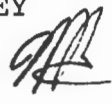
THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FAITH RYAN WHITTLESEY

FROM:

MORTON C. BLACKWELL 

SUBJECT:

Schedule Proposal - Assemblies
of God General Council

I recommend that the President accept this invitation.

The Assemblies of God Church is large, growing, pro-Reagan, and increasingly politically active. The President has scored home runs with the supportive religious community with his addresses to the National Religious Broadcasters and National Association of Evangelicals.

This is another excellent opportunity.

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR RECOMMENDATION ON THE FOLLOWING
SCHEDULING REQUEST UNDER CONSIDERATION:

EVENT: Address the 40th General Council of the Assemblies
of God

DATE: August 11-16, 1983

LOCATION: Anaheim, California

BACKGROUND: See attached

YOUR RECOMMENDATION:

Accept___ Regret___ Surrogate___ Message___ Other___
Priority___
Routine___

IF RECOMMENDATION IS TO ACCEPT, PLEASE CITE REASONS:

RESPONSE DUE 3-14-83 TO Fred Ryan

*Defending
12/11
Aug (11-16)*

AG

THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

1445 BOONVILLE AVENUE
SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65802

THOS. F. ZIMMERMAN
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

February 24, 1983

TELEPHONE
(417) 862-2781

*12,000 delegates
in attendance
in Springfield*

127533

*Staff to
Red Country*

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Mr. President:

Thank you for the outstanding leadership which you are giving to our country during these days of national challenge. Your forthright position on critical issues of morality and social responsibility and your steady leadership have certainly given stabilization to our nation.

We take this opportunity to invite you to speak at the 40th General Council of the Assemblies of God, which will convene August 11-16, 1983, in Anaheim, California. (This is the biennial meeting of the Assemblies of God, at which time our Fellowship meets to take care of the business aspects of our ministry.) We would be most honored to have you speak to our group any time that would be most convenient for you during the time of our convention. If a suggested time is in order, we would ask you to consider being a part of the opening service of the convention on Thursday, August 11. Our program is flexible enough to accommodate your visit at the hour most convenient to your schedule.

The constituency of The General Council of the Assemblies of God will warmly welcome you and count it a privilege to express support for you in bearing the heavy responsibilities of your high office. Presently we have more than 10,000 churches in the United States with approximately two million adherents. Our worldwide outreach touches 110 countries of the world, in which we have a missionary family of more than 1250, with an estimated constituency of some nine and one-half million. In the January 7, 1983, issue of Christianity Today the Assemblies of God was featured as being the fastest growing denomination in America.

It has been my honor to serve as a member of the executive committee of the National Religious Broadcasters. In this role it has been my pleasure to be much involved with planning for your visits at our annual convention in January for the last two years. This meeting will be well covered by both the secular and Christian media.

pered exuberance with moments of stillness; the quiet refrain "Alleluia" was born in a Teen Challenge prayer meeting.

This has made things more hospitable for incoming charismatics from the mainline churches. There is no question that the Assemblies of God have reaped a windfall from both the Jesus movement of the early 1970s and the wider charismatic renewal. "The truth is, we were leveling off in the late fifties," says Richard Champion, managing editor of the *Pentecostal Evangel*, the AG weekly. "Then the Spirit began planting 'our' theology and experience in all sorts of unlikely places. If it had happened first among the Nazarenes and the Baptists, we might have been more threatened. As it was, it happened in the National Council groups and the Catholics, and we mainly watched in amazement."

Superintendent Zimmerman, who is glad to be called a charismatic but dislikes the label *classical Pentecostal* ("too mildewed"), says, "The Assemblies have been available to give ballast to some of the excesses. Many charismatics, in their first burst of excitement, wanted to kick the institutional habit altogether and be free. Now they've

lived to see the need for roots and church organization. Some of the exaggerations that cropped up had been faced by us years ago, and we were able to help them see that the Spirit and the Word always agree."

The Assemblies' growth, however, is more than a matter of house churches and prayer groups coming in from the cold. Evangelism and church planting continue to be important items on nearly everyone's agenda. Zimmerman believes the denominational self-study in the mid-1960s was crucial. "We were 50 years old as a movement then," he recalls, "and a sampling of our constituency revealed some creeping ambiguity about our reason for being." The result was the 1968 Council on Evangelism in Saint Louis, which declared a three-pronged mission: worship to the Lord, maturation for the saints, and outreach to the world. We then asked whether we were putting our human and financial resources in these three areas. These have been our guiding goals ever since."

The subsequent success stories are impressive indeed. Between 1971 and 1981, scores of congregations grew at a blistering rate: Springfield, Illinois—

from 950 to 5,200 on Sunday morning; San Jose, California—660 to 3,600; New Orleans, Louisiana—335 to 2,400; Joplin, Missouri—95 to 2,450.

Outside observers notice that the Assemblies have not soured on Sunday school. Whereas in many churches the classrooms are only half as full as the sanctuary, AG Sunday school attendance often matches and sometimes even exceeds morning worship. In the denomination's five largest situations, Sunday school is running at 100 percent, 190 percent, 146 percent, 96 percent and 116 percent of church attendance respectively.

"They've grown because they intend to grow," says Elmer Towns, dean of Liberty Baptist Seminary, Lynchburg, Virginia, and long-time compiler of Sunday school statistics. "They talk about growth from top to bottom. And they haven't been afraid to learn from others. They've brought me to Springfield [national headquarters in Missouri] three different times to lecture; they've reprinted Southern Baptist training materials. Tommy Barnett, who's built their second-largest Sunday school out in Phoenix, openly admits he learned busing from independent Baptists."

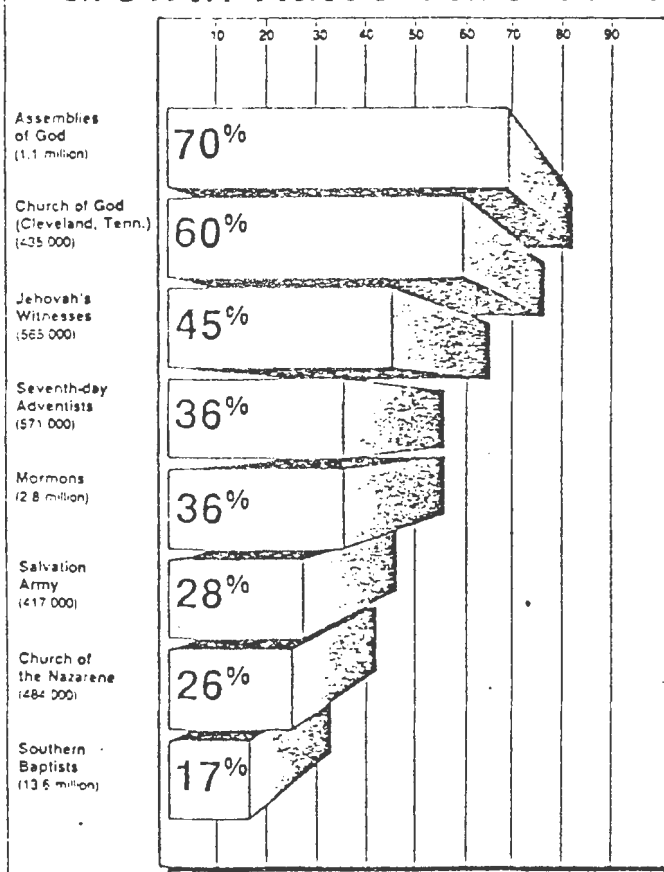
Carl George adds, "They have a lean system that still rewards achievers. Assemblies of God pastors are not expected to be intellectuals, giving carefully balanced presentations every time they open their mouths. Instead, they must be enthusiastic and warm, vigorous, with strong social leadership skills." That sometimes makes fellow clergy nervous in their presence, but it apparently meets the average American on comfortable ground.

The Assemblies of God are strongest in the Pacific states—the highest concentration is, surprisingly, in Alaska, where 5.3 percent of churchgoers are AG. Next come Oregon (4.9 percent) and Washington (4.7 percent), followed by Arkansas, Oklahoma, then Montana, Nevada, Missouri, Idaho, Colorado, California, and Florida. In other words, the denomination tilts west.

General secretary Joseph Flower (a distant cousin of Zimmerman) points to a sociological explanation. "When people move, they are more open to new things, new associations," AG growth consultant David Torgerson says. "Churches grow best in populations that change. Outgoing congregations flourish there. Maybe that explains why First Assembly in Fairbanks is the largest church in town."

Evangelism in the Pentecostal church has changed drastically since early in the century, when the movement began to grow. "In the early days," says Flower, son of one of the founding fathers, "every church had revival meetings that sometimes lasted for weeks. Now they don't usually run more than three or four nights. Some churches have formal home visitation programs, but the bigger mode of contact is media. CBS and PTL have generated tremendous interest and inquiries. Some churches have more than doubled as a result."

Growth Rates 1970-1980



Nathan Young

Source: *Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches*. 1980 memberships are shown in parentheses. Total adherents are more in some cases.

Assemblies of God church planting is less a matter of master planning than of individual burden and district encouragement. "Nobody sits down in Springfield and says, 'Let's start another church in Roanoke,'" explains Torgerson. "The fellowship is much too autonomous for that. All we do is fan the flame of the Great Commission. It's up to the districts to decide where, who, and when."

What happens is basically entrepreneurial. A would-be pioneer—usually young—steps forward and claims a divine leading to start a congregation in his area. If the district officials agree, they endorse the enterprise, help find a meeting place, often collateralize the mortgage at building time, and provide published materials free for six months. Salary subsidies average three years, with a descending scale.

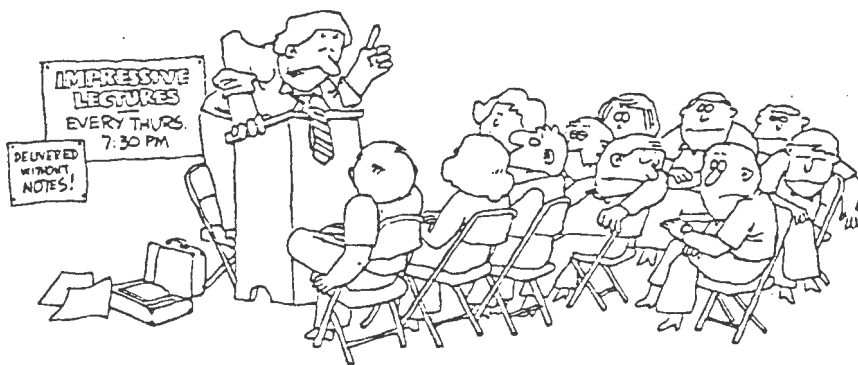
When the new church chooses a name, it may not include "Assembly of God." Denominational flag waving has slackened in recent years, with 8 of the 13 largest congregations (according to Sunday school totals) calling themselves things like Calvary Temple, Willamette Christian Center, Calvary Community Church, and Crossroads Cathedral. That sometimes confuses listeners to "Revivaltime" (aired on 541 stations) when they try to follow the sign-off suggestion to "go to the Assembly of God church near you," but it also removes a barrier to many who dislike partisan labels.

Once they arrive, they are likely to hear simple, fervent, Bible-centered preaching. "God's Word, the Bible, is our final rule of faith and practice," says Zimmerman, in reply to occasional criticisms that Pentecostals are ruled by experience. "We stand unashamedly on that premise. The Holy Spirit will never take us beyond or outside the bounds of Scripture."

Visitors are frequently referred to Scripture to decipher ecstatic happenings during worship. Robert Schmidgall, whose Naperville, Illinois, congregation has grown from zero to 1,900 in 15 years, is one Assemblies pastor who uses almost a stock explanation after prophecy or tongues with interpretation: "Just a word for those who might not understand—I Corinthians 12-14 tells us about several special gifts the Holy Spirit has given to edify the church, and what you just heard was an example of one of them. If you have further questions, we'd be glad to talk

THE NAVIGATORS ON SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES

COMMON ERRORS IN LEADING GROUPS



Problems are not always caused by errors, but errors will *always* turn into problems if left alone. Here are some common errors of Bible study leaders:

- *Not making the questions sound conversational.* Even though you prepare and write out your questions beforehand, speak them in a conversational tone. And use your own vocabulary.
- *Being afraid of silence after asking a question.* Don't be impatient or nervous. Give everyone time to think.
- *Limiting yourself to asking questions.* The leader is also a participant in the group. Freely give your answers and observations but don't dominate the discussion.
- *Not explaining what you want the group to do.* You're in charge. Don't hesitate to step in from time to time to influence the direction of the discussion, to call on someone to pray, and so on.
- *Trying to maintain too much control.* If the discussion "takes off," don't worry about it as long as the group doesn't wander too far from the Scriptures.
- *Asking a question which can be answered "yes" or "no."* This type of question hinders discussion.
- *Asking questions that are too complex.* State each question simply and clearly.

• *Emphasizing your own viewpoint or application.* Don't expect everyone to be deeply impressed with the same things in Scripture that deeply impress you.

• *Not being familiar enough with the material.* If you don't feel comfortable with the material, then you won't feel free to lead the study.

• *Not ending the study on time.* If you promise the study will last only to a certain time, keep your word.

• *Lecturing, not participating.* Lecturing by you, the leader, can be the "kiss of death" for a study group.

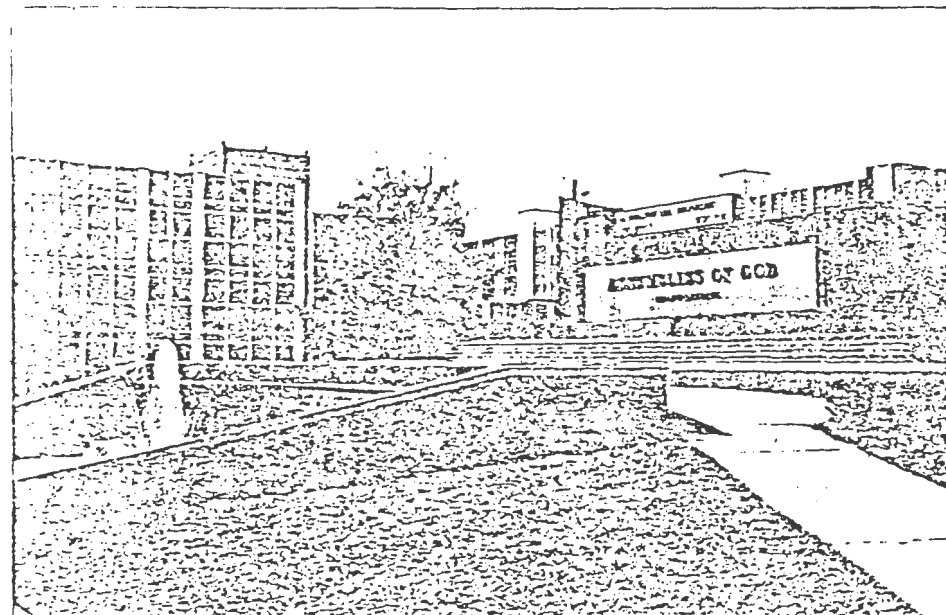
• *Not summarizing the main ideas as they are presented.* Summarizing allows you and the other group members to stay focused on the subject and reach the session's goals.

• *Not adequately discussing how Scriptural truths can be applied.* It's possible for you to emphasize understanding the Word so much that you exclude discussion about applying it.

This article is the last in a series intended to help you discover some of the effective ways to lead—and participate in—Bible study discussion groups.

For a free booklet expanding on all the principles covered in this series, write: NavPress Bible Study Coordinator, P.O. Box 6000, Colorado Springs, CO 80934.

NAV PRESS, HELPING
CHRISTIANS GROW



The Assemblies of God headquarters in Springfield, Missouri

with you afterward."

Far from being embarrassed, most Assemblies of God people are eager for evidence of the supernatural. "Miracles are God's advertising," says Dave Sumrall, missionary pastor in Manila. (The Assemblies are five times as large overseas as in the U.S.) Stories of healing and other divine interventions pepper AG conversation, sometimes verified by doctors, sometimes not. Both valid miracles and wishful thinking succeed in piquing the interest of outsiders.

Sometimes the desire for health and well-being goes to questionable limits, as in the "positive confession" teaching of independent author/speakers Kenneth Hagin and Kenneth Copeland, among others. They teach that God responds primarily to our faith, especially when it is verbalized; thus, affluence and health are available to all sincere Christians who will declare that they have it. The teaching is something of a siren song to Assemblies laity, despite a 1980 general presbytery warning against "statements which make it appear that man is sovereign and God is the servant." AG theologian Gordon Fee, New Testament scholar at Gordon-Conwell, was more blunt in a 1979 *Evangel* article when he called this teaching an "alien gospel." Said Fee: "In the new order brought about by Jesus, wealth is an irrelevancy."

Throughout the ranks, there is an intense desire to stay on course, to keep the momentum rolling, and not to put too many kettles on the denominational stove. "As church bodies age, they take on more and more good things," says

Zimmerman, "and they diffuse their energy."

What lies ahead for the fastest-growing denomination in the nation? A changing of the guard, for one thing. Thomas Zimmerman will be 73 when his current term expires at the end of 1985. He is widely praised by such leaders as Billy Melvin, executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals, who calls him a gifted administrator. "He has been committed to making the Assemblies part of the evangelical mainstream, and he's pulled it off," Zimmerman, as head of NAE's largest member denomination, served a term as NAE president.

It remains to be seen whether the Assemblies network of ten colleges and a graduate school can survive the chill winds of rising costs and student aid cutbacks. Valley Forge Christian College outside Philadelphia faces the stiffest gale. Only one of the schools escaped an enrollment decline this past fall. Further erosion could affect the future supply of ministerial leadership.

At the grassroots level, the greatest challenge is to indoctrinate the new wave of members. "A weakness of our current growth spiral," says David Torgerson, "is too much rejoicing over the attendance, the cash flow, and the people at the altar without enough grounding in the Scriptures. We have to train more regarding the full significance of the work of the Holy Spirit." As Carl George sees it, "The Assemblies have not had to be responsible for the Christian formation of many of their newcomers. But they will in the future."

FISHNET

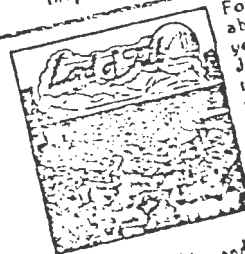
REJOICING AL REJOICE FOR ONE GOD

Front Royal, VA
July 13, 14, 15 & 16

Some of Those Who Have Ministered at Previous Fishnets!!

The Imperials	Stephanie Boosahda
Pat Robertson	Don Francisco
Dallas Holm	Andrae Crouch
David Wilkerson	Rex Humbard
Andrus, Blackwood & Co.	Hal Lindsey
Dr. Richard Dobbs	The Phil Keaggy Band
Sweet Comfort Band	Euie
The Archers	Rosey Grier
Denny Duro	Nicky Cruz
Ann Kiemel	Honeytree
The Sharretts	Benny Hinn
Winkie Pratney	Doug Oldham
Ben Kinchlow	Mario Murillo
Elizabeth Elliott	Joni
Joe English Band	Josh McDowell
Larry Andes	Loren Cunningham
The Rambos	Barry McGuire
Dr. Tony Compolo	Ivona Tompkins
& Many Others	David duPlessis

They've ALL been to Fishnet!! HAVE YOU?



For 6 years you've heard about Fishnet! This year plan to attend! Join 18,000 folks at the Fishnet Life Center, just 60 miles West of Washington, D.C. for this dynamic, interfaith event!

Enjoy rich teaching and powerful music
for 4 nights and 3 full days!

Come! Be a part of singing, clapping, praising, camping, and loving Body of Believers! Bring someone with you who does not know Jesus. They'll meet Him... HEAD ON!

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Richmond, VA 23229
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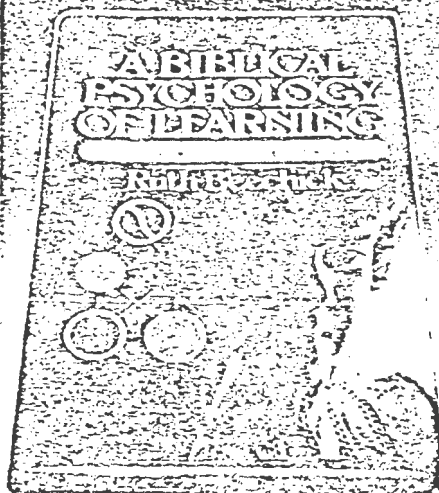
Name _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Are Your Children Really Being Taught God's Way?

The answer may not be as obvious as you might think. For too long the Christian world has been dazzled by secular sciences that offer us less knowledge about ourselves than the Bible. Now you can do something about it.



Dr. Ruth Beechick
Hardcover, \$10.95/Softcover, \$5.95

A BIBLICAL PSYCHOLOGY OF LEARNING

breaks through all secular philosophies by combining theory with practical Biblical principles.

Now, in terms you can understand, this powerful book explains how the mind operates, how your children and you can memorize more easily and remember longer, and much more. For parents. For teachers.

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Such a problem is, of course, entirely welcomed by the denomination's 24,000 credentialed ministers. The veterans among them are glad to be done with the isolation of the past, when many Christians considered them a cult. The current upsurge is explained in part by the fact that since 1970, many non-Pentecostals have adopted the policy of

I Corinthians 14:39—"Forbid not to speak with tongues." Meanwhile, the Assemblies of God seem to have rediscovered the next verse: "Let all things be done decently and in order." The combination of those two adjustments has unleashed a growth curve that shows no signs of leveling off.

DEAN MERRILL

Luther Rice: Upgrading a Seminary and Hoping to be Accredited

A new president's broom sweeps out complacency.

During a period of seven months in 1981, nine faculty members of Luther Rice College and Seminary—virtually the entire administration—left the school after a number of disagreements with its president and founder, Robert Witty (cf. Dec. 11, 1981, p. 49). The main issue was whether Witty was moving fast enough to bring academic integrity to the unaccredited school. The faculty members said he was not. Witty said he was. The school, in Jacksonville, Florida, is Southern Baptist in orientation, but is not affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention. It offers off-campus degree courses.

When the blowup occurred, Witty had already announced that he would be stepping aside. Last spring a new president took over, and today Luther Rice is moving ahead quickly.

The new president is Gene Williams, who received a Th.D. in homiletics in 1955 from New Orleans Baptist Seminary. Williams has been a Southern Baptist evangelist who led 770 revivals, and he taught evangelism at Jerry Falwell's Liberty Baptist Seminary from 1972 through 1976. Williams was hired because of his wide contacts, conservative theology, evangelism experience, commitment to academic excellence, and noninvolvement in Southern Baptist wrangles. "Some of the regents asked me if I would be involved in denominational politics," Williams recalls. "I said, 'No.' They said, 'Good.'" Williams took over last May. Witty, who started the school in 1962, was named chancellor, with no administrative duties.

One of the new president's first tasks was to find new professors. Past practice had been, with few exceptions, to hire Rice alumni. Williams has hired five new men with doctorates from accredited institutions, and is looking for more.

Among the five is the new dean of undergraduate studies, Nevin S. Alwine (Ed. D., University of Northern Colorado), who came from Liberty Baptist Seminary. Dean of graduate studies Harold McNabb (Ed.D., New Orleans Seminary), a former classmate of Williams, was among the teachers who stayed after the 1981 walkout.

Williams says two of the nine who left now want to return, but cannot be accepted unless they are actively working on an accredited doctorate. Faculty members without accredited doctorates who did not leave and were inherited by Williams are also being required to pursue one.

After less than a year as president, Williams can point to seven of ten full-time teaching faculty who now have accredited doctorates. Williams doesn't intend to stop until every faculty mem-

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ber has an earned, respected doctorate.

Williams also brought in a professional librarian, registrar, and director of admissions. Next to be hired is a director of development. Williams wants to increase gifts (tuition, at \$40 an hour, does not meet the current million-dollar annual budget) and build a strong endowment.

Admission procedures have also been tightened. A new student may begin work on the basis of a preliminary application, as is true in many schools, but cannot be formally admitted until credits are provided from an acceptable school. The admission of students without enough credits for college work was a sore point under Witty's administration.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date:

1/19/84

TO:

Morton Blackwell

FROM: **FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.**

Director

Presidential Appointments and
Scheduling

☐ Information

☒ Action

☐ Let's Discuss

I spoke with
Pastor Kayatin
this evening
to inform him that
we were sending
this on to you for
action. Thank you
cm

Regret - But
McB will meet w/
him if he wants.
Pres. is meeting w/
Nellie Gray this

Morton -
Spoke to these
people & they
expressed support for
the Pres. Do we need
to do anything else?

NO
MB

1/22/84



Christian Assembly of God

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OFFICE

Louis F. Kayatin
Pastor
216/282-8024

January 17th, 1984

Dear President Reagan,

We are truly thankful to God for placing you in the office of President of the United States. Please know that our prayers of intercession are behind you as you lead this nation.

We are in support of and are praying for your re-election in 1984. Your godly stand on moral issues is appreciated. We are deeply grateful for your stand against abortion.

As you know on Monday, January 23rd, 1984 there will be thousands of Pro-Life supporters meeting in Washington, D. C. to protest the 1973 Supreme Court decision to legalize abortion in America. This year the annual "March For Life" will be joined by many Christian organizations and churches from across the nation. We are happy to say that our church is sending a delegation of 47 people to join in this cause. We are excited about meeting with Senators Glenn and Metzanbaum and our Representative Donald Pease to present to them thousands of signatures in petition form supporting the Human Life Amendment.

Mr. President, in all respect to you and knowing your busy schedule, we would like to request a 5 - 10 minute audience with you on Monday, January 23rd, 1984 to meet with our group. At this time we desire to express to you our feelings on abortion and our support of your re-election.

Our delegation would consider it an honor if your schedule permits.

May God direct your path.

Yours For the Unborn,
Louis F. Kayatin
Louis F. Kayatin, Pastor
Brian Del Turco
Bruce F. Neubauer, Asst. Pastor
Brian Del Turco
Brian Del. Turco, Ministries Coord.

BD:nrw

"PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL IN POWER AND PRAISE"