



Christian Coffee House Ministry, Inc.

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Beloit, Wisconsin 53511

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OCTOBER, 1977

THE OVERFLOW

The past couple of months have really been something else! We have heard from the Lord in special ways and He has been keeping us so busy we hardly knew we were closed. He is really doing some changing and re-arranging. All of the changes may not be visible ones, but they are as real as those you will be able to see. You know, when you really need some answers, God will always come through if you are willing to wait upon Him for them. We would like to share with you some of what the Lord has spoken to us from His Word. We were directed to I Chronicles 28:20,21 (Living Bible): "...Be strong and courageous and get to work. Don't be frightened by the size of the task, for the Lord my God is with you; He will not forsake you. He will see to it that everything is finished correctly. And then various groups of priests and Levites will serve in the Temple. Others with skills of every kind will volunteer and the army and the entire nations are at your command." Now before you go gettin' a shoutin' spell over that, read Isaiah 41:9-16 and you'll know why we are eager to get moving again. It is with these promises behind us, knowing that God always backs up His Word, that we are going forward-more excited than ever before about what is up ahead. This is not the time to look back or retreat. This is the time to move forward in faith to accept the challenge of today, not limiting God by unbelief!

God is on the move like never before, even while we have been "closed". He has continually sent people with a variety of needs. They have contacted us by phone or "just happened" to stop in when someone "just happened" to be at the Cup, giving us an opportunity to share the Lord's blessings with them in one way or another. One night during staff meeting, a young couple who hadn't eaten in awhile for one reason or another came in to share our supper that we "just happened" to have enough of. While they were eating, those attending the prayer meeting took up a collection and after the meeting, one of the couples took them grocery shopping and the Lord had another chance to love somebody. We are realizing more and more every day that people have different levels of need and sometimes you have to meet their physical needs for food, clothing and/or shelter before you can move on to another level and help them with their emotional and spiritual needs.

Have you ever heard someone described as being "so heavenly minded that they are no earthly good"? Years have passed since I've met anyone fitting that description especially when looking in the mirror. Most of the time we are all too earthly minded to be any heavenly good and we need to get concerned about this. Follow me for a minute if you will. Since motives determine attitudes, attitudes determine reactions and reactions determine behaviour and outlook, our plans and our goals are affected by all of these. So we have to get these things lined up before anything else will come together. So these past few months have been a time of searching and examining our attitudes and goals and we are finding it necessary to adjust some priorities in our personal lives as well as the ministry. There is a word that psychoanalysts talk about - cathexis. Don't let it scare you. Cathexis means (approximately) emotional investment. To cathect something heavily means that your emotional life is pretty wrapped up with whatever you cathect. The question that faces every Christian today is this: Assuming that we are already less concerned about heaven the more we are wrapped up with earth; and given that the more wrapped up in heaven we are the less anxious we will be about earthly life - how much cathexis is directed towards eternal values? Matthew 6:21 gets right to the nitty-gritty of things: "For where

your treasure is there will your heart be also." Jesus knows the tug of war that goes on in our hearts with regard to earthly vs. eternal things. He said we need a "single eye" or we would grope in terrible inner darkness. Torn in two directions, we never see clearly the issues that confront us. We stumble through life confused and bewildered never sure where we are going. The man who makes up his mind to pursue money and only money portrays a less pathetic figure than the fence-straddling Christian or the wanderers. At least he has a goal. Of course we know the materialism routine with its pursuit of money ends up consuming your life and really doesn't count for anything in eternity. But what about the Christian on the fence who doesn't want to get committed to anything but just drifts about looking for the action? What is his goal? Is he doing anything that will count? It's time to get off the fence and find out where you are going.

Everybody is searching for freedom but do we realize that to be free means to be released from being torn in two directions at once. It means to have one passion only-one pearl of great price-rather than half a dozen. The following letter written by an American communist in Mexico City, a letter breaking his engagement with his fiancée, should give you a picture of the concept I'm trying to convey to you.

"We communists suffer many casualties. We are those whom they shoot, hang, lynch, tar and feather, imprison, slander, fire from our jobs and whose lives people make miserable in every way possible. Some of us are killed and imprisoned. We live in poverty. From what we earn we turn over to the Party every cent which we do not absolutely need to live. We communists have neither time nor money to go to movies very often, nor for concerts nor for beautiful homes and new cars. They call us fanatics. We are fanatics. Our lives are dominated by one supreme factor-the struggle for world communism. We communists have a philosophy of life that money could not buy. We have a cause to fight for, a specific goal in life. We lose our insignificant identities in the great river of humanity; and if our personal lives seem hard, or if our egos seem bruised through subordination to the Party, we are amply rewarded-in the thought that all of us, even though it be in a very small way, are contributing something new and better for humanity.(?) There is one thing about which I am completely in earnest, the communist cause. It is my life, my business, my religion, my hobby, my sweetheart, my wife, my mistress, my meat and drink. I work at it by day and dream of it by night. Its control over me grows greater with the passage of time. Therefore I cannot have a friend, a lover or even a conversation without relating them to this power that animates and controls my life. I measure people, books, ideas and deeds according to the way they affect the communist cause and by their attitude to it. I have already been in jail for my ideas, and if need be I am ready to face death."

Oh, that Christians, God's people, had such a single eye! If this letter fails to stir your emotions, you may already have begun to die. Like a traveler lost in a snowstorm, unaware that his body is gradually freezing while he sits in his snowbank, you are drifting to sleep! If your heart beats more quickly, be glad! You may not share the opinions of this unknown communist and you may be appalled at the abandon with which he throws himself into this particular cause, but be glad if you are shocked into seeing how trivial our lives have become. It's admirable and at the same time sad to see a man who is willing to commit his all and even to die for what he believes in because of the futility of letting something that holds no eternal value consume your life and yet, people are doing just that, everyday all around us.

I believe that everything that has been happening at the Cup is all a part of our journey along the pathway of faith. But, God is no longer satisfied with uncommitted, part-time Christianity or free-loading fence riders who don't know where they are going or how they are getting there or what they will do when they arrive. Time is running out! This is a tough business. You'll either have to assume your place in the body and help run the race or get out of the way so you don't get trampled on! Of course, if you'd rather sit on the sidelines and just be an observer, it's your choice. But remember, you won't share in the victory if you don't run the race. So---where do we go from here? Read on, friend.

October '77

NO ADMISSION CHARGE

FREE COFFEE

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

WE WILL BE OPEN FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHTS ONLY at 7:30 p.m. All Activities start at 8:00 p.m.

We are sorry that we aren't able to be open more for the time being. Not only are we short of help, but we feel it would be more economical during the winter months to keep the amount of time the building would have to be heated to a bare minimum. As our budget increases in manpower and money, we will be able to increase our schedule.

CLOSED

Danny Sinacori will be singing at Open Bible Church, 916 Bushnell St.-Beloit, Wisc. 6:00 p.m.

3

CLOSED One reason the school of experience is so tough is that you get the test first and the lesson later.

4

CLOSED Staff prayer and share meeting 7:00 p.m.

5

CLOSED True greatness lies not in BEING somebody but in KNOWING somebody - JESUS!

6

CLOSED Nature is but a name for an effect whose cause is GOD! Read Psalm 19

7

TEACHING & FELLOWSHIP Gil Semans will begin teaching a series on "INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD OF GOD"

8

"SONG OF JUDAH" from the Peoria area. This group has never been to the Cup before. You'll love their style. It's like Love Song.

CLOSED A pint of example is worth a gallon of advice. Read: I Tim. 4:12

10

CLOSED If you don't want to do business with the devil, stay out of his shops. Read: Proverbs 16:25

11

CLOSED Staff prayer and share meeting 7:00 p.m.

12

CLOSED Those who complain about the way the ball bounces are often the ones who dropped it.

13

CLOSED The difficulties of life are intended to make us better not bitter.

14

TEACHING & FELLOWSHIP If you haven't met Gil yet come on down and get acquainted. If you have, come anyway!

15

FELLOWSHIP NIGHT with Sharing, Caring Group Singing and a new movie "Just Last Summer" a love story filled with conflicts.

CLOSED-READ

I Chronicles 29:11; Does the shadow of the cross fall on your pocketbook?

17

CLOSED When everything seems to be against you, remember-God is for you!

18

CLOSED Staff prayer and share meeting-7:00 p.m.

19

CLOSED The reason a dog has so many friends is that his tail wags instead of his tongue.

20

CLOSED Those who tell little white lies soon go colorblind. READ: Prov. 6:12 - 19

21

TEACHING & FELLOWSHIP We hope you will take advantage of such good teaching sessions.

22

"NEW WINE" from Bothan, Alabama-First time at the Cup 5 guys & a gal with a message & exciting style

CLOSED To be satisfied with yourself is a sure sign that you are forward motion has stopped.

24

CLOSED When God says "CHOOSE" it is fatal to say "PLEASE EXCUSE"

25

CLOSED Staff meets for prayer & sharing at 7:00 p.m.

26

CLOSED Remember the turtle-He never makes any progress until he sticks his neck out.

27

CLOSED So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God Romans 8:8

28

TEACHING & FELLOWSHIP Gil searched through all the philosophies for answers & found out Jesus had them all the time.

29

"THE REVELATION" from DeKalb, Ill. It's been a year since they were here and are we gonna have a good time.

We are back on course with renewed strength and vision. Sometimes we find ourselves getting carried away in the charisma of things and we forget all about the basics. So, we recognize a need for some teaching along these lines. Since Dale Martin is being led in other directions, we have asked Gil Semans to take over the task of helping us to build a body that is established in the Word. Just a little background about Gil. He has worked most of his life in the steel industry, has a Master's Degree as a metallurgist and searched through every philosophy and theory he could find for more than twenty years before the Lord finally found Him in 1971. He has a real love for God's Holy Scriptures and a gentle, yet anointed way of presenting it. So, come on out on Friday nights, get acquainted with Gil and get in on some good, solid teaching and fellowship as Gil helps us gain a better knowledge of the Word, both written and in the person of Jesus Christ. (After all, any building needs a good foundation if it is going to be around for any length of time, right?)

Of course, Tuesday nights will still be set aside for staff prayer and share meetings and Saturday nights will be for singing groups, movies, etc.. Incidentally, Vickie Garrett has moved back to Rockford and will share with you what the Lord is doing in her life in a later newsletter. We will miss Vickie and have appreciated her help while she was with us, but it is always exciting to see the Lord moving people around to get them where He needs them. Speaking of moving, we are pleased to have Bill and Amy Brda join us to help in the ministry as much as time allows. From all indications, Bill will probably have to work full time to feed little David Jeremiah, who is just eight weeks old. Bill, Amy and David have recently moved to Beloit from DeKalb, Illinois and we hope you will meet them soon and welcome them into the Cup family.

We praise God for His faithfulness and we praise Him for all of you, your prayers, your faithful financial support even when our doors were technically closed. Your prayer support is especially important to us, but sometimes it's not enough to just pray and hope that someone else will come along to help us. If the miracle of this ministry is to continue, if needs are going to be effectively met, more people will have to get into the act and have a part in things. Right now, we are asking you to put your faith on the line and into action so we can keep moving forward. There is always work to be done on the building and there is always a shortage of people and money. So don't wait for someone to tell you what you can do to help (except for the Lord). Just come on down, look around and if you want to be used of the Lord, you can find many ways to do it at the Cup. If you don't see something, just ask what you can do and we'll find something for you.

We have a great schedule planned for October as you will notice, so come as often as you can and make yourself a part of God's family at the Cup. Now we want to leave you with this thought for the month: NOTHING IS EASIER THAN FAULTFINDING. NO TALENT, NO BRAINS and NO CHARACTER ARE REQUIRED TO SET UP IN THE GRUMBLING BUSINESS!

Looking forward to His Soon Coming but doing
business 'til He Comes, Love in His Name,

DAVE AND PAT FOGDERUD

THE OVERFLOWING CUP
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