

Youth 81

Seven Men from Planet Earth
Overcoming Shyness



On Two Wheels

AUGUST

Why Talk to God?
See Page 1

Youth 81

August

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COVER: Cycling has many advantages — recreation, relaxation, exercise, transportation — but most of all, it's just plain fun. "On Two Wheels," starting page 6, explains the steps in planning a bicycle outing for a group of family and friends. Photo by Nathan Faulkner.

Letters

Sandbags

I was just reading your article entitled "What's It Like to Be a Teen in Prince George?" [April]. It mentioned that the YOU group makes sandbags as a fund-raising project. I used to live in Toronto, Ont., and I know what it's like to live in cold weather with snow. My dad used to put sandbags in his trunk during the winter to give him more traction.

I really enjoyed hearing about the teens in Prince George. I would also like to hear about the teens in South America or South Africa.

Roxanne Smith
McKinney, Tex.

Quotable quotes

I want to thank you very much. Last week I gave a persuasive speech in my eighth-grade drama class. I used the article entitled "A Timeless Message to Teenagers" by Scott Ashley [April].

My drama teacher was very impressed. He asked me where I got my quotes and asked for a copy of my speech.

I really appreciate *Youth 81* and how much I have learned from it.

Frances Nosal
Austin, Tex.

God does care!

God does care about a teenager and his wants! I have started my first third-tithe year and at the beginning I was quite despondent. You see, I was saving to buy a motorcycle and as far as I could see paying three 10ths of my money would never in a million years let me buy a bike. But I decided to pay third tithe anyway.

Two weeks ago, our family was able to buy not one but two new motorcycles, and just today, we bought a beautiful trailer, with plenty of room for our bikes, for one third of what we had expected to pay. God truly is a generous God!

I know that you are truly God's apostle. I pray that you will be able to keep up with your tremendous work load.

Marcel Schnee
North Battleford, Sask.

Advice paid off

After reading the article about "Hire Yourself a Summer Job" in the April issue of *Youth 81*, I followed the advice that was given. I got the first job I applied for, delivering a local newspaper.

Thank you very much for establishing this magazine for the young people in God's Church. The magazine is so interesting.

Derek W. Hogberg
Pasadena, Calif.

Why Talk to God?

*In times of trouble it's natural to call out to God.
But is prayer only for the bad times?*

By Jeff Zhorne

When misfortune strikes, like facing punishment for breaking a rule, oh, the thoughts that can race through your mind!

Thoughts like: "God, if you get me out of this mess, I promise to send \$5 to the Church" or "I'll pray 10 minutes every day for a whole week! Please, God!"

The bad times often find us crying out pleading words to God. But what about the good times? Does God live in your shirt pocket so you can talk to Him and ask Him for favors only when you need Him?

Following are some reactions from young people in the Church about whether and why they pray. Although the group questioned represented a wide range of ages, most of those interviewed said they prayed every day.

"I pray because it's so important to stay close to God," replied a high school junior. "So many prophecies are being fulfilled that it's scary. And I don't want to drift from God now. It would be like falling out of a raft in the ocean — the farther you drift from the raft, the more danger you're in."

A senior said she prays so God will help her through a lot of rough spots with her mother.

"I've seen God work in my life," responded an 18 year old. "Without prayer, you fall away from God's ways to Satan's ways."

A ninth grader explained why

prayer is important to him. "God protected me in a very serious car accident," he said. "I rolled the car and wouldn't be alive today but for God. That was sort of the 2-by-4 that hit me and got me to start praying."

"I ask God to help me with things I can't do — things like schoolwork!" was one junior's reason for praying.

"I pray for others to be healed of cancer and other things," noted a 16 year old.

Two first graders gave humorous yet sincere answers. "If you don't pray, God won't let you stay in the world," said one. "I pray because God is lonely," replied the other.

Many of these young people are well on their way to having full, meaningful prayer lives. Are you? What's so important about talking to God? Even if you do say a few words to God every day, perhaps you feel that's all you can think of to say: a few words. Many teens, aware that their parents sometimes pray for a half hour or more, exclaim, "I couldn't think of enough to pray about for that long!"

One thing you can do is express your appreciation. When you get sick and have to stay home in bed, don't you appreciate your mother's caring for your every need? Or what about when she makes a special meal for you?

How can you *not* appreciate loving parents? God has feelings too, and He appreciates our thanking Him for His gifts to us: food, water, air, clothes — an innumerable number of things He provides for us daily.

Shouldn't we be even more grateful to our Divine Parent than we are to our physical parents? God wants us to thank Him in the good times as well as ask favors of Him in the bad times.

But doesn't God already know what we need even before we ask? Yes, He does. But why should He provide them if we won't talk to Him about our needs and wants, recognizing that God is the source of every good and needed blessing? When we get down on our knees in real believing faith, expecting miracles, God acknowledges.

So you're on your knees. Do you find there just doesn't seem to be that much to talk about? It is difficult to be creative in each prayer. But why be creative at all? What's wrong with a short, memorized "now-I-lay-me-down-to-sleep" prayer?

In the first place, Jesus Christ said not to pray vain, memorized repetitions (Matt. 6:7). Although God immensely enjoys prayers, He doesn't need them. He surely doesn't want to hear "this-is-a-recording" prayers.

Nor does God want to listen to prayers that are mumbled and not from the heart. Imagine having an appointment to talk with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. As you begin to speak, while he is giving you his undivided attention, you start to grow sleepy, start mumbling words, rambling from one topic to another, monotonously droning on and on.

What reaction would you expect
(Continued on page 12)

OVERCOMING SHYNESS

Does shyness keep you from doing things you'd like to do? Follow these steps to overcome shyness!

By Karen Meeker

Steve is a good athlete, he does fairly well in school and his boss at the grocery store considers him his best worker. But when it comes to talking with a — well, you know — a girl, his face turns crimson, he breaks into a sweat and he just can't get the words to come out of his mouth right.

The big YOU dance was coming up, so Steve bit his lip and forced himself to go. He really wanted to ask Linda and some of the other girls to dance, but he ended up hanging around with his friends and making jokes. It hurt to know he was scared to ask, so he tried to forget about it.

Linda wasn't having the best time either. She wanted to dance, but she spent her time with a few of her friends in the corner. She felt so embarrassed that if any guy seemed to be coming to ask her, she sort of turned away and looked busy talking to her friends.

Steve and Linda are both victims of an affliction that troubles at least one out of two people. A great deal of research has been done on shyness, and it has been determined that shyness is present in virtually all cultures.

Among teens, shyness is generally a sign of a poor self-image — feelings of being less attractive or intelligent or having more negative qualities than others. Most of the time these feelings are not true, but in spite of this, they still persist.

Shyness seems to come in two forms. One, the most obvious, is

accompanied by profuse blushing, sweating and stammers. The other form may be harder to detect. It's private, in the mind. There may be no physical signs to betray its presence, but it comes from the same source — a fear of rejection.

What causes shyness?

Shyness is a learned behavior pattern: If your parents are shy, chances are you have learned this from them and will respond shyly in social situations, too.

Sometimes children are labeled as shy at an early age and become convinced that it's true. Maybe the kindergarten teacher called you shy, and the idea stuck. What's worse, now that you're a teen, you're probably thoroughly convinced you will always be shy. And you might be — that is, if you don't take steps to combat it.

Shyness can be hard to fight. It may seem crazy, but deep down it can feel more comfortable to stay "shy," even though living with shyness can be very painful. It takes real courage to take steps to overcome any ingrained habit, but the benefits are really worth it. Here are some suggestions that might help you make that change:

- Work on changing your attitude toward meeting new situations. If there is someone you'd like to talk to, don't argue yourself out of it. Do it! They're probably just as timid about meeting you.

Go up and say something like, "Sure was a great basketball game (or YOU Bible study or talent show)" or "I saw you turn down our block the other day. Do you live near . . . ?" I'm sure you can come up with better openers than these.

- Work on feeling good about yourself. Take a poll of all your abilities and attributes. Remember, God gave talents to everyone. List them aloud in front of the mirror, looking yourself straight in the eyes.

Forget all the things you can't do or don't have. Make the most of what you can do or do have. When you meet someone or are in a new situation, keep the positive in mind. Don't run yourself down. We're all in the same boat — we're all good at some things and lousy at others.

- Find other shy people and try to help them out of their shells. After all, you *know* how it feels to be shy. Don't let the braggart and the bully fool you. Many times they're just covering up an aching feeling of inadequacy they themselves feel inside. Talk with them. Introduce them to other people; invite them to participate in group activities. Help them in some way if you can, and remember, a sincere compliment can go a long way.

- Proverbs 18:24 states, "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly." You might start by perfecting the art of smiling. People may react a little strangely at first when met by an unexpected smile, but keep doing it. It's contagious!

Learn to be a good listener — it's a way of expressing true concern for others. Try not to judge people before you meet them. First impressions can be totally wrong.

Give compliments when they are deserved — and learn to take them yourself. Never accept a compliment with a negative remark or by downgrading yourself. A simple "thank you" is often the best answer.

Shyness doesn't disappear overnight. It goes away only through much effort on your part — constantly working to become more outgoing.

It takes courage to take any of these steps because, frankly, you won't always meet with the desired reactions when you do try. You may have masked your feelings of shyness so well that people don't know you are a very sensitive person.

Don't let a negative reaction stop you. By taking a chance you can rid yourself of a painful attitude. *You* can overcome shyness! □

On the gray-brown, powdery surface of the moon an 8-inch stainless steel plaque is testimony to the accomplishment of a national dream:

“Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the Moon, July 1969, A.D. We came in peace for all mankind.”

Maybe you viewed with your parents those historic moments, more than a decade ago, when Neil A. Armstrong and then Col. Edwin E. Aldrin Jr. first stepped on the moon’s dusty, rock-strewn surface. Locked into lunar orbit, Lt. Col. Michael Collins, manning their command ship, circled noiselessly above them.

Their names are a part of history now — names you may have to remember for an exam some time. But did you realize that their accomplishment was more than just an adventure in outer space? It was the fulfillment of a challenge to a nation!

The world was shocked at the birth of the Space Age. Its advent was signaled by *Sputnik 1*, a beeping 184-pound wonder, not from the Free World, but from the Soviet Union. This first artificial satellite’s birth date was Oct. 4, 1957.

Why hadn’t the United States been first in space? Technologically far advanced, with

ample energy and economic resources, America had some of the best-trained test pilots available. Nevertheless, the Soviet Union put the first artificial satellite in orbit and the first man in space. What had the United States lacked?

U.S. President John F. Kennedy knew.

In a special message to Congress May 25, 1961, he said: “I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the earth . . . in a very real sense, it will not be one man going to the moon . . . it will be an entire nation. For all of us must work to put him there.”

What America had lacked was a sense of purpose, a challenge, a goal — the first step toward success.

The American Congress and people were caught up in President Kennedy’s vision to fulfill the age-old dream of human flight to the moon — and in less than 10 years. America could thereby take the lead in space achievement from the Soviet Union.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) had been laying the groundwork for a man-in-space program since its orga-

the stage for Armstrong and Aldrin’s historic romp on the moon.

According to their own admissions, they were seven different individuals with different temperaments, personalities and abilities. But one characteristic they shared would be a key ingredient in taking the lead in the space race.

They were all *successful* men in their fields — not a loser among them. Maybe they couldn’t have recited for you the laws of success in order, but most of these laws had become a part of their very character.

Now they would need those success-producing principles more than ever before. A goal had been set for them by the nation. Preparation was their first concern.

And prepare they did. Already top-notch pilots and highly trained engineers, the men would nevertheless take and retake refresher courses in skills needed for their missions. They put themselves through hours of what would have been described in medieval times as torture. In the centrifuge it is routine astronaut training to be accelerated to the point of unconsciousness. They shook in vibration chairs, rotated wildly in pitch blackness in sealed tanks and alternately sweated and shivered in heat and cold chambers.

They were in good health. All were athletic and no specialized health program was designed for them. Exercise was an established habit.

Drive? They all had more than enough. They channeled it for the good of the entire program.

Their resourcefulness came through time and time again as they struggled with faulty equipment, out-of-control spacecrafts and other unforeseen problems in space. Their perseverance was especially visible when they continued on after the tragic deaths of Virgil Grissom, one of the original seven, and Edward White and Roger Chaffee in *Apollo 1*. *Apollo 11* carried astronauts Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins to
(Continued on page 12)

Seven Men From Planet Earth

By Sheila Graham

nization in the fall of 1958. On April 9, 1959, the seven original U.S. astronauts were introduced to the world in a Washington, D.C., press conference. These seven men set



Behind the Scenes at CAPE CANAVERAL

By John Halford

I don't know about you, but I am still fascinated by the space program.

It is hard to believe that nearly 25 years have passed since the first artificial satellites were launched. They were about the size of a football, and just about all they could do was to go "bleep." But it was a start.

By the mid-'60s, when most readers of *Youth 81* were born, we were getting used to the idea of man in space. The Gemini program was well under way, and this in turn led to the Apollo missions.

It was the fifth manned Apollo mission that landed two men on the moon in July, 1969. Then came the heart-stopping days in 1970 when Apollo 13 was disabled on its way to the moon. The whole world held its breath for three days, waiting to see if the three astronauts could get back to earth safely in their crippled ship, and then breathed a collective sigh of relief when they did.

And now we have the space shuttle. I had the opportunity to visit the John F. Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral just after the successful first flight of the space shuttle *Columbia*. It was an exciting time to be at an exciting place.

The area around Cape Canaveral isn't much to look at, just a quiet, flat piece of shoreline. Until you get close to the Kennedy Space Center, you'd think you were at a quiet seaside resort.

You reach the space center on a beautiful parkway. (Cape Canaveral is also a wildlife refuge.)

Craig Bacheller, pastor of the Melbourne, Fla., church, was with

me. He had been able to arrange a VIP tour, with a private guide and access to some areas where visitors were not normally allowed.

Our first activity was a press conference with the two astronauts who had just completed the first successful orbital flight in the shuttle.

The two astronauts, John Young and Robert Crippen, seemed calm and casual about their experience. But their easy confidence was the result of hours of training and years of dedication. They could be "cool" because they were thoroughly prepared for the life they had chosen.

After the conference, our guide took us on a tour of the Kennedy Space Center. The biggest building at the space center is the Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB). This huge cube, 525 feet high and covering nearly 8 acres, is where the parts of the space vehicles are finally assembled before launching.

This building is so big that a special air conditioning unit must be kept operating. Otherwise, clouds would form inside the building, and it would actually start to rain — indoors.

The building was built to accommodate the Saturn V rockets that sent man to the moon a decade ago. It is hard to imagine just how big these rockets were — 363 feet high, and weighing six million pounds. There was one lying on its side, near the VAB. Even on its side it dwarfs the trucks and maintenance vehicles around it.

Today the VAB is used for the space shuttle program. Here, *Colum-*

bia is joined to its expendable fuel tank and the two recoverable, solid-fuel rockets.

Our guide then took us up to the launch room. You've probably seen this room on television. Rows and rows of TV screens — blank now after the excitement of the previous week. It takes about 50 people to monitor a shuttle launch.

That's a small number compared with the 450 needed for the moon launches. Advances in technology have made this reduction possible, even though a shuttle launch is actually more complicated. Hard to believe, isn't it, that the technology that sent man to the moon is already becoming obsolete?



In the launch room you realize that a space launch is truly a team effort. In a space shuttle launch, there are thousands of things that could go wrong. And someone must be ready to act if they do.

One man we talked to was assigned to certain emergency procedures. He told us: "It's like sitting on the bench all through the game, hoping you

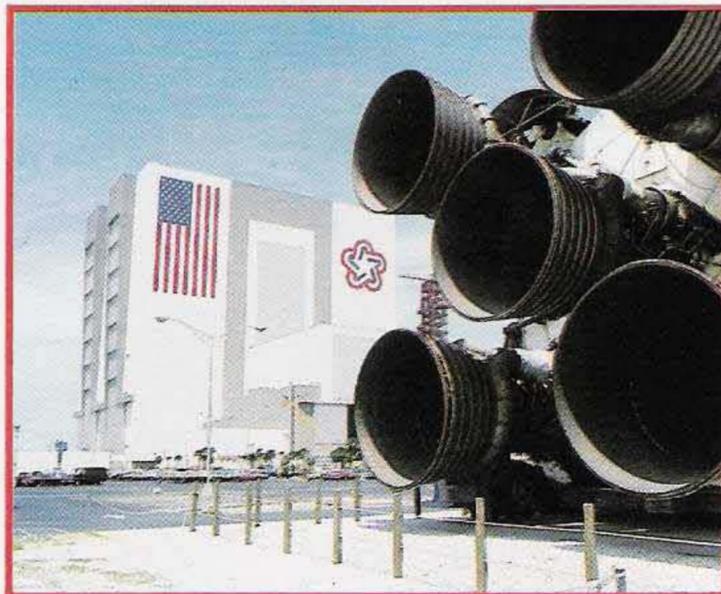


won't be needed. But you still have to be ready to spring into action at a moment's notice." That perhaps is the main impression you get at the space center — people working together as a team.

One of the members of the Worldwide Church of God, Ed Beverley, helped assemble the space shuttle. He explained to us just what a complex and costly machine it is.

"Everything has to be absolutely top quality. And you have to be very meticulous working on it. One bolt, just one bolt, can cost \$2,000. A small pin can be worth \$300. The other day I was attaching some insulation behind the cargo bay. The string I was using is worth \$1,200 a ball.

baseball diamond. The shuttle is assembled in the VAB on the pad in a vertical position. The entire setup is then moved about 2 miles to the launch site, using the huge crawler-transporter.



The shuttle launch area is the same one that was used for the moon shots. I had expected the area to be all blackened and burnt from the tremendous blast-off the week before. But surprisingly, very little damage is done, either to the launchpad or to the surroundings. The grass was still green, and there were even some birds around. Perhaps they were deaf!

Actually the birds — or one kind of bird in particular — pose quite a problem for the space shuttle. *Columbia* is covered with special tiles that help to protect it from the searing heat of reentry.

These tiles are very fragile — the delicate, eggshell-like glass surface must be handled with greatest of care. They cost \$500 to \$2,000 apiece — and there are about 30,000 of them.

Each tile must be mounted with a small space around it, to allow for expansion. Little bugs love to get into that space, and woodpeckers love to get them out. Imagine what a few hungry woodpeckers could do to the surface of *Columbia*! The men in the space program have to think of everything.

Everyone involved in the space shuttle program seems turned on and committed to the project.

I talked for a long time in the shuttle project office with Richard
(Continued on page 12)



Everything must be top quality."

As Herbert W. Armstrong has so often pointed out, quality pays in the long run. *Columbia* is probably the most complicated machine ever built. But it works!

After seeing the launch room, our guide took us out to the launchpad. As we drove we could see what looked like a block of apartments coming down the road to meet us. It was the crawler-transporter bringing back the launch platform to the VAB.

These launchpads are the size of a

Clockwise from left: The space shuttle atop its 747 transporter; the huge crawler-transporter hauling the launchpad; Saturn V rocket engines, with the Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) in the background; YOU members examining *Columbia* after its first orbital flight. (Photos above by John Halford; far left and right, *Youth 81* photos)



A group of family and friends, two wheels under you and nature all around — sound like a winning combination?

If it does, cycling is the sport for you. Few activities are more enjoyable and healthful and yet flexible enough to meet the resources and desires of nearly any group.

Cycling enthusiasts boast of the many advantages of this popular sport: recreation, relaxation, exercise and even transportation. When was the last time your family or YOU group took a pleasant ride into the local countryside, perhaps stopping at a park for a picnic or a cool swim in the lake? With a little preparation and a lot of enthusiasm, such an outing is sure to appeal to almost everyone in your group.

There are a few steps to follow in planning your bicycle trip that will ensure its success and safety. First of all, check with your parents and your group's coordinator and ask them to help you organize the activity.

Who will be participating in the ride? You must plan your trip according to the abilities and desires of everyone involved. A family with small children might enjoy a simple ride through the neighborhood, while a group of teens could take a longer, more challenging ride.

Weekends and holidays are natural opportunities for cycling outings. Get together and decide on a time and place you'd like to go, and what you'd like to do along the way.

You might like to pack a lunch to eat under a shady tree off the roadside or maybe plan a cookout at home for when you've finished the trip. Perhaps a visit to a museum or local recreation area could be incorporated into your ride.

Next, you must plan the route you intend to ride. It's a good idea to have a map for longer trips, with your route marked clearly and a copy given to all riders. Factors to consider in choosing a route are distance, road conditions, terrain, traffic, weather and, of course, the skill level and equipment of all riders. The trip will be more fun for everyone if you stay within the limits of all participants.

Photos by Nathan Faulkner and Sylvia Owen



On Two Wheels

By Sylvia Owen

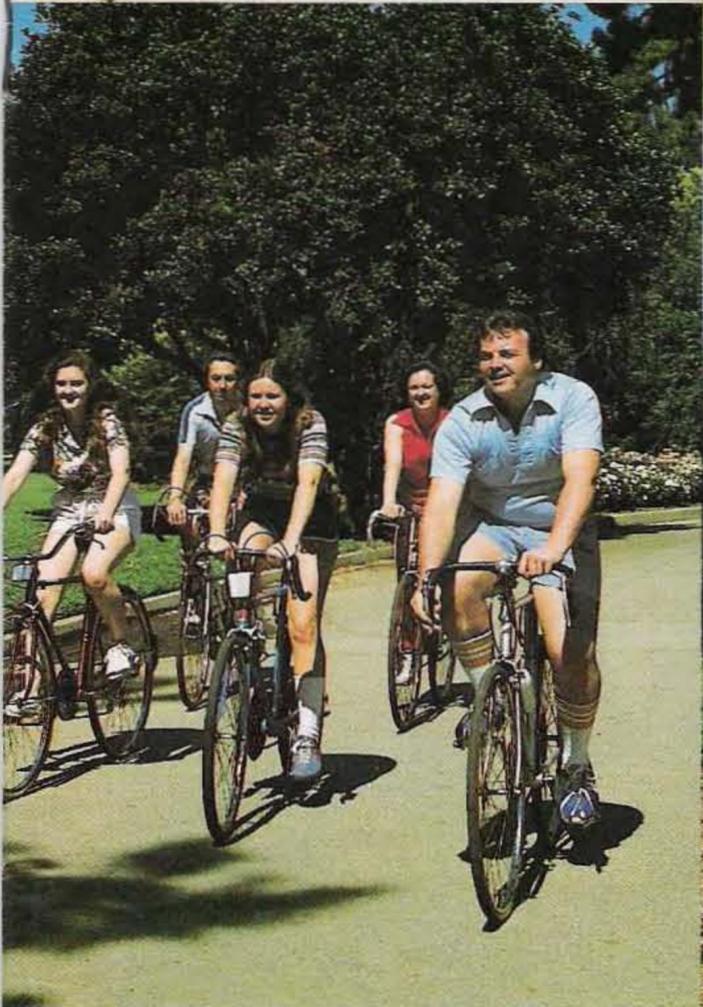
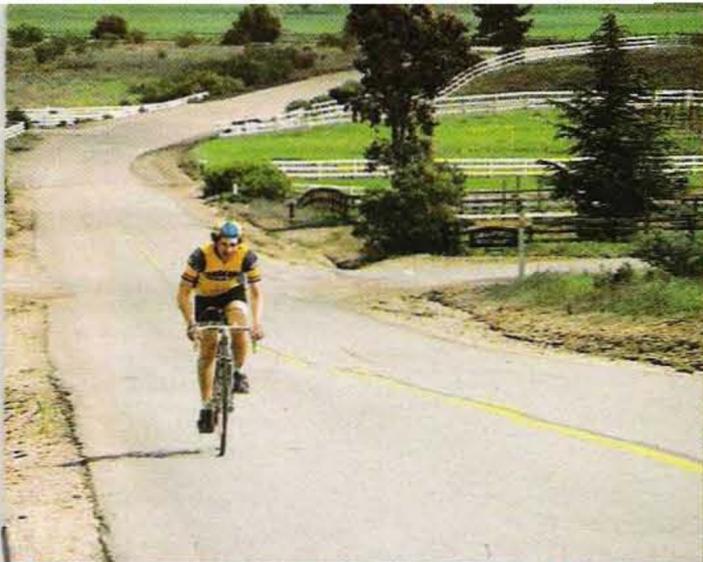
The next step is to make a list of equipment you'll need for the trip. Cycling doesn't require a large amount of equipment, but there are a few essentials to make riding enjoyable and safe. The most basic of these, of course, is a bicycle.

There is a wide variety of bicycles on the market today, selling from just a few dollars up to thousands of dollars. You don't have to have an expensive bike for day touring over short distances, but make sure it is the right size for you and that it is in

good working order. (See the checklist on page 11 in "News & Reviews.") An improperly fitted bike or a breakdown along the way can spoil even the best of rides.

If you plan to venture far or over hilly terrain, it is helpful to have a bike with a choice of several gears. The most popular variety is the 10-speed bicycle.

Proper clothing is another essential to comfort and safety. Clothing should be loose enough to allow ease of movement, yet not so large that it



creates wind resistance or could become caught in bicycle parts. Bright colors will help make you more visible to road traffic.

Be sure to consider the weather you'll likely encounter on your trip. It's better to carry along extra clothing or rain gear than to risk not having it if you should need it. Proper shoes are another necessity; they should be sturdy and comfortable. Toe clips on your bike's pedals will increase your cycling ease and efficiency, but make sure your shoes will fit into them smoothly and easily if you intend to use them.

A frequently ignored but very important part of safe cycling is the use of a cycling helmet. Most cycling fatalities occur because of head injuries, and many of these could be avoided by the use of a helmet. Many varieties are available, and some are inexpensive — the protection they offer is well worth the price. Visit your bike shop to find one that fits

you properly and suits your budget.

A few tools can prevent minor roadside problems from ruining your trip. Carry a tire-patch kit and a frame pump for fixing flat tires. You'll need tire irons for removing the tire; it's a good idea to practice using these tools at home first. A crescent wrench, screwdriver and first-aid kit are other items to carry along just in case they're needed.

An inexpensive handlebar bag or knapsack can serve as a place to carry these tools and will also hold food, clothing and a camera or other items you'd like to bring along. If you're carrying bulky or heavy items, they should be secured to a rack on the back of your bicycle. Have a water bottle on your bicycle or in your pack. You'll need to drink frequently while riding.

Some safety equipment is advisable, depending on the nature of your ride. A mirror can be mounted on your handlebar or a specially

designed mirror attached to your helmet; this will enable you to ride more safely in traffic.

Special cycling gloves will cushion your hands and protect in case of a fall. Lights and reflectors are advisable and often required by law if you'll be riding into the evening or at night. A clip or band will prevent long pants from becoming caught in bicycle parts, and a good lock will keep your bike safe if you should need to leave it unattended.

Once your planning is complete, you're ready to ride! Before you leave, make sure parents and other responsible adults know your planned route and time schedule. Then, head down the road — your adventure is about to begin!

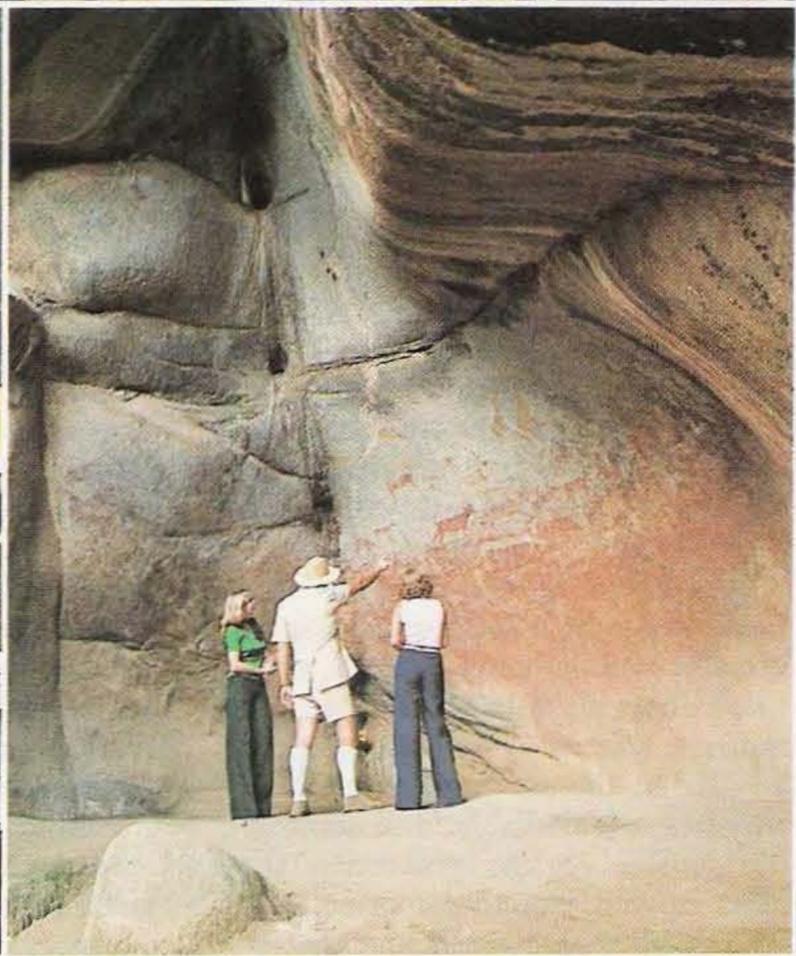
Have an enjoyable ride, but don't let the beautiful scenery take your mind off safety. Keep your group together, making sure everyone rides with the direction of motor traffic. Safe riding means you watch, look and listen — for motorists, objects and each other. Be predictable and courteous in traffic, and always obey road signs and traffic lights. Make sure you know the laws about cycling in your area.

Safe riding also means sensible riding. Don't ride too fast; set a pace that is comfortable for all members of the group. Spinning low gears is better for legs and less fatiguing than pushing high gears. Periodic rest stops will enable you to enjoy sights or points of interest along the road, and will double as an opportunity to refuel your body with snacks and plenty of liquids.

Bicycle touring is an excellent means for developing friendships, sharing experiences and for meditating on the wonders of God's creation. Do your part to make the trip more fun for everyone, and help out when help is needed.

After your tour, you and your family and friends may find you'd like to learn more about bicycle touring. A bike shop or cycling club can give you more information, and there are many books on the subject.

Bicycle touring is a whole new and exciting world to explore and enjoy. So assemble your family and friends, and step into gear — adventure is waiting for you, right down the road! □



What's It Like to Be a Teen in Zimbabwe?

By Rolf Varga

What's it like to live in cities where the houses are grass huts and where lions and elephants roam the streets?

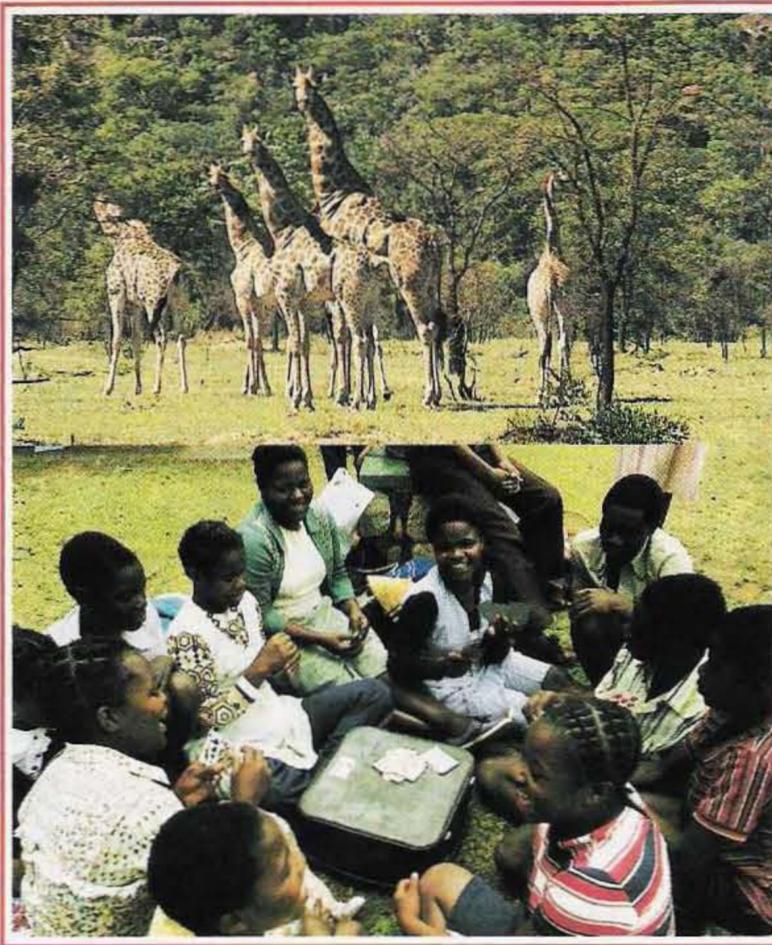
What's it like to carry water from the river and to cook your freshly killed game over an open fire?

Well, if that's what you think it's like in Zimbabwe (and many people do!), then you're quite wrong. There are areas like that in Zimbabwe, but the teens in God's Church here live quite differently.

Zimbabwe, until a year ago known as Rhodesia, is in south-central Africa and is approximately one twentieth the size of the United States. Zimbabwe is a landlocked country with access to sea ports through South Africa and Mozambique.

Though political upheaval and violence have made headlines in recent years, there are plenty of benefits of living in this beautiful country. It is a country of sunshine and outdoor activities. Wildlife abounds and the teens in Zimbabwe enjoy clean, fresh air and some of the most beautiful wild countryside in the world.

Photos, opposite page: The modern skyline of Salisbury, Zimbabwe's capital; kayakers on Lake Mcllwaine near Salisbury; ancient painting in a cave near Bulawayo. Above: Giraffes in one of Zimbabwe's game parks and a card game among some of the Church teens. (Photos by Rolf Varga)



For instance, in past years the Feast of Tabernacles has been at Victoria Falls, one of the most magnificent waterfalls in the world. The inhabitants have always known this awesome spectacle as *mosi-oo-tunya*, the "smoke that thunders," because of the spray it generates.

Zimbabwe is also the home of the mysterious Zimbabwe ruins, stone edifices that have baffled archaeologists for years.

And then there is Lake Kariba, the largest man-made lake in the world, just the place to go fishing for the much-sought-after tigerfish!

Zimbabwe must be one of the last places in the world where the teens wear uniforms to school. Each school

has its own school uniform, and there is a certain pride in the school colors. Discipline in the schools is strict, and the teachers still have the right in most schools to administer a caning if it is warranted.

However, school is only for half the day, and the afternoons are spent in activities such as sports or clubs. The girls, for instance, might play tennis or field hockey and the boys often go for cricket and rugby.

Unfortunately, the main day for playing sports is the Sabbath; still, the teens of God's Church in this country are admired for their tenacity, their sheer stick-to-itiveness. In spite of not participating on the Sabbath, teenagers like Dave Britz have become successful athletes. Dave, member of a winning rugby team, is also captain of his tennis team.

What about dating in Zimbabwe? A date might include a *braaivleis* (a barbecue, for those of you elsewhere) at someone's house and then a movie in one of our many theaters. Or perhaps a visit to an ice rink to go skating — you see, the teens in Zimbabwe are not that different from teens anywhere else in the Western world.

I asked a group of teens at SEP recently what it was like to be a teen, and especially a teen in Zimbabwe. "Hey, being a teen here is *lekker* man, in fact it's *mooshi sterek!*"

Roughly translated that means: "It's just great, man, great!" □

News & Reviews

Crossword Puzzle

BY PAUL CLARK

We'd like to thank Paul Clark, 18, from Pasadena, Tex., for this contribution.

Across

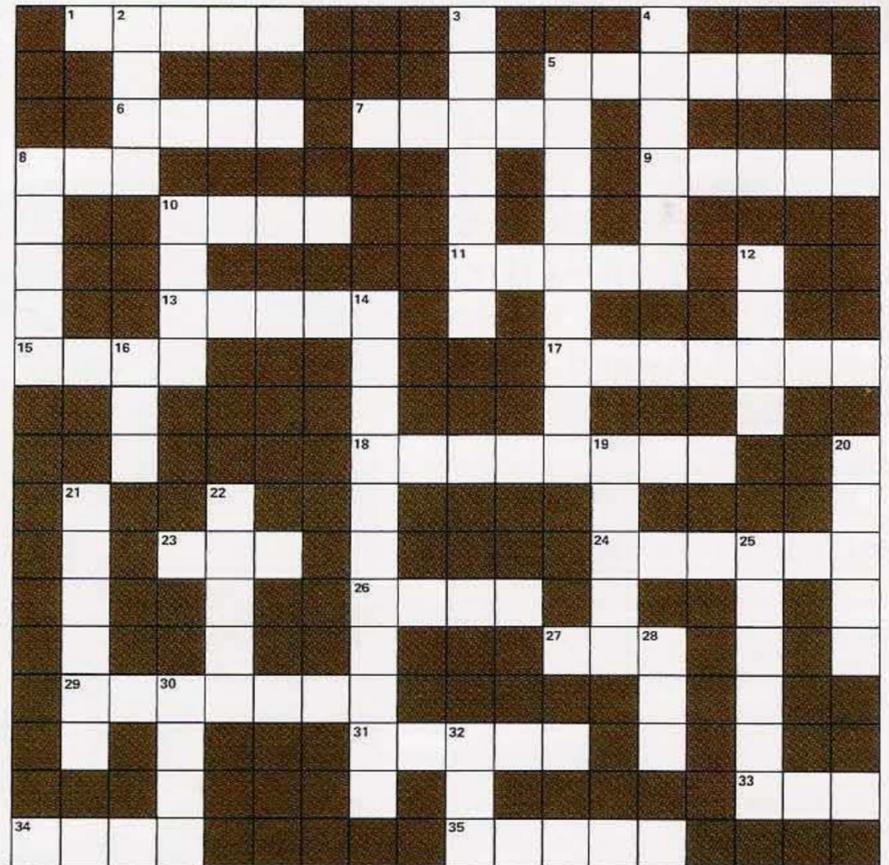
1. Man whose name was changed to Israel
5. Worldwide ____ of God
6. First month of God's sacred year
7. Father of Abraham
8. God called Himself this to Moses (two words)
9. Satan
10. This apostle formerly persecuted Church
11. Moses' hands felt this way in Exodus 17:12
13. Harlot spared during battle of Jericho
15. Person Samuel spoke to in I Samuel 9:23
17. "... in the time of ____ He shall hide me. . . ." (Ps. 27:5)
18. "The wonderful world ____"
23. Priest Samuel helped as a boy
24. "The ____ shall rejoice, and blossom as the

rose" (Isa. 35:1)

26. When Christ returns He will be ____ of lords
 27. This man's wife turned into a pillar of salt
 29. Tribal roots of Britain
 31. Number of people saved in ark
 33. Animal sacrificed in place of Isaac
 34. Pagan god in contest on Mt. Carmel
 35. Popular YOU group activity that includes music
- ### Down
2. Father of Seth
 3. Walls of this city tumbled down
 4. Day of week on which Pentecost falls
 5. Goal of Christian: to build perfect, righteous ____
 8. Son of Abraham and Sarah
 10. An unclean meat
 12. Moses viewed the promised land from this mountain
 14. One of Jesus' disciples
 16. Liquid used in anointing

19. Former name of God's Church: ____ Church of God
20. Simon Barjona
21. God commands us to pay Him these
22. When we are ill, we are to call an ____ (Jas. 5:14).

25. Counterfeit of God's Passover in the spring
28. Shortest Bible verse has ____ words (John 11:35)
30. God promises to ____ the sick
32. Name for the Creator



FRISBEE'S FRIENDS

BY CAROL SPRINGER



Family

The love we share each day
Grows deeper as the years
speed by,
Happy times together
Become a binding tie.

Words spoken years before,
Engraved so firmly in our
minds,

Become a lasting script of
love
Not erased by time.

The love and the laughter,
The tears and the pain
Join to build a life
That in our hearts will
remain.

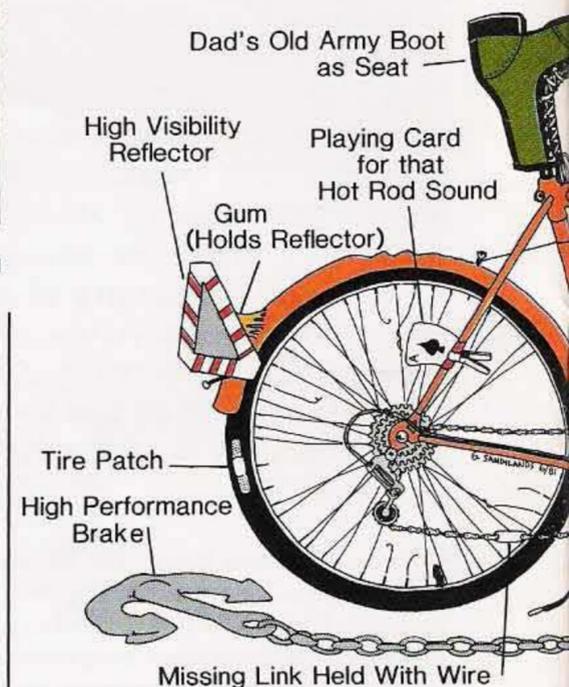
In future years when we kids
are married too

With children of our own,
We'll think of the lives that
we shared then
And how our love has grown.

A bond that can't be broken
Though tried and tried again,
Together, forever,
Our lives will blend.

Anna Marie Freese
Age 16
Cincinnati, Ohio

Is your bike a custom model like this? The safety checklist above can help you pinpoint any potential problems.



Bicycle Safety Checklist

Wheels: Check that they are not bent or dented, that the spokes are in place and tightened and that the hubs are secure.

Tires: They should be in good condition, not overly worn or cut, and properly inflated.

Brakes: Should be functional, adjusted properly, with the cables in good condition and well secured and the brake shoes not worn excessively.

Gears: Check for smooth operation and proper lubrication.

Chain: Check for proper tension, rust and dirt and proper lubrication.

Seat: Make sure it is adjusted and secured tightly.

Handlebars: Should be adjusted and secured, with tape or grips in good condition.

Safety equipment: Make sure reflectors, lights and mirror are in good working order.

For more information, see books such as *Anybody's Bike Book* by Tom Cuthbertson (Ten Speed Press, Berkeley, Calif., 1979), or visit a bike shop.



Illustration by Greg Sandilands

'I knew there had to be more to life than football'



By Bob Orosz

"I'm disgusted, sore and aggravated — there has to be more to

life than this!"

That's what I said three years ago after practicing for weeks to beat the rough, tough Wolverine football team from the University of Michigan. They were favored to win and our preparation was lasting forever. Guess what! We lost.

That's right, after three hours of grunting, grappling and swearing, we lost. We had practiced throughout the season for this game. In just three hours it was all over.

Before the game I was excited — I loved the electricity that massaged my body with goose pimples the size of BBs. Running out of the locker room onto a field, with 90 to 100 thousand fans looking on, excited me. But why?

I loved to be looked up to. I liked being the warrior who bravely tackled the opponent. The harder I tackled the man, the louder the crowd cheered. There was one problem, though. I only tackled viciously when I was angry.

Let me give you an example. During spring practice our team would split up into two squads to scrimmage against one another.

It was my turn to participate in the scrimmage. The play was set to go. Both running backs were in position and I, being a defensive player, zeroed in on the running back assigned to me. He received the ball and was headed straight up the middle.

Suddenly, my legs were cut out from under me. My eyes didn't see the aggressor who had just rearranged my footing. I could hear fellow teammates grunting and shoulder pads cracking. The sky was

blue. I remember because I did a flip and was now on my back before the final man smashed into my helmet.

In all the excitement of the play, I lost my mouthpiece and had split a lower back tooth in two. Blood filled my mouth and an aching pain radiated through my lower jaw. I stumbled to the sideline to get some help. All I received was a new mouthpiece and a squirt of water before I heard the coach say, "Orosz, get over here!"

After all this, I was angry! I wanted to hurt someone. The very next play was directed toward me again. I waited for that sneaky guard who stole my footing last time, and as he came near I cocked my arm back and struck his throat, cutting off his breath and consciousness.

A few seconds later, he was still passed out on the ground with the trainers trying to revive him. A few seconds more passed and he finally came to his senses.

I was afraid and a bit ashamed of what I had done. But everyone knew I had struck the man on the field, and I was now a hero, looked up to because I could knock out a 250-pound guy when I weighed only 210.

Disgust and frustration riddled my thoughts as I undressed and took a shower. "Is this what I want?" I told myself there was more to life, but I didn't have the slightest idea where the rest was hiding.

After a few months of watching my brother change by participating in a "peculiar" religion, I wanted to know more about it. So I began studying the Bible daily. God made His plan easy for me to see, and I found that His attitude and way of doing things were far better. Soon after this I was accepted into Ambassador College.

I'm not disgusted, sore or aggravated now. I knew there had to be more to life than football, and I found it in striving to become a true hero, a Member of God's Family. □

Why Talk to God?

(Continued from page 1)

from Mr. Reagan? He might very well ask you to leave his office and not ask you back! Just think how much more disrespectful it is to God when we mumble sleepy-time prayers to Him.

So how do you talk to God creatively in heartfelt, fervent prayer? First, don't think you are bothering God by sharing your hopes and problems with Him. Talk to God as you would with a close friend — like you would with a father.

We've already named a few things to pray about: personal problems, hopes and dreams and the blessings God has given us such as air, water, food and our very lives. We can also pray for the Work, Herbert W. Armstrong and God's ministers worldwide. Also express to the Almighty how badly the world needs Christ to return and take over so crime, wars, pollution and all other evils can be stopped.

Also ask Him to help you resist Satan, to overcome trials, to forgive you of sins. Don't forget to pray for others, too!

Experiment. Don't limit yourself in prayer. Some days you may want to spend more time on your personal problems. Other days you may want to concentrate on praying for the Work and the needs of others. Prayer is like anything else: Practice makes perfect. To further develop a meaningful prayer life, don't be afraid to ask your parents what they pray about.

Prayer is not just for the bad times or when you are in desperate need of help. Tell God how important He is in every aspect of your life like an eighth-grade student does. "I pray because God created everything," he said. "I think He wants us to respect Him for that."

Have faith that your prayers will be answered. No "let's-see-if-it-works-this-time" approach. If God doesn't answer right away, be patient and persistent. Be sure to thank Him when He does answer. With a little effort, you can talk to God in a way that will be pleasing to Him. And who receives blessings and benefits from sincere prayer? You do! □

Seven Men

(Continued from page 3)

the moon only 2½ years later.

John Glenn, Alan Shephard, Gus Grissom, Scott Carpenter, Deke Slayton, Wally Schirra and Gordon Cooper — names in history books. Their successes made a nation proud. They seemed to have had it all.

No, not quite. Their spectacular Space Age achievements, exciting as they were, are practically forgotten now. They didn't solve anything here on earth. The fundamental political and economic problems of this world are still with us.

Until John Young and Robert Crippen's space shuttle flight, most people had lost interest in the space program. These early astronauts' successes were purely physical, and physical achievements are short-lived.

Success in this world is possible by applying six of the success laws, but when God is left out of our lives, so is the lasting, permanent happiness of real success. That all-important seventh law, then, is having contact with and continuous guidance from God.

God can help us to set the right goal, to have true education and good health, to be motivated by His Word, to solve daily problems and to be inspired to never give up.

Herbert W. Armstrong's booklet, *The Seven Laws of Success*, can give you *all* the keys you as a young person need to be successful. And now is the time to begin applying every one of them. Don't wait. Let your *first* goal be true, lasting success in your life. □

Crossword Puzzle Solution



CAPE CANAVERAL

(Continued from page 5)

Thornburg, who works with the planning and coordinating of future space shuttle missions. It is very much a behind-the-scenes operation, and Mr. Thornburg will probably never go into space himself. But his enthusiasm and zeal for the project are contagious.

Mr. Thornburg told us that just knowing you are part of a winning team is a great feeling. You know that part of the program's success is dependent upon your doing your job properly. He pointed out that "being part of the shuttle program brings out the best in us."

The men and women really seem to enjoy their work. It is the most ambitious and complex scientific experiment ever attempted. It shows what human beings can do when they have a goal, see the vision and work together. In the world tomorrow all jobs will be like that.

We finished off our day with a visit to the home of Danny and Mary Jane Nail. Danny works for NASA as an audio communications technician. He has worked on the space program since 1964, and was involved in the Gemini and Apollo programs before working with the shuttle.

Mary Jane grew up with rockets. Her father worked with some of the pioneer projects in the early 1950s. They are truly a space family. They are also members of God's Church.

Mr. Nail pointed out that the space shuttle is basically a peaceful vehicle, as are all of NASA's activities, although, of course, in this age everything we touch seems to have a potential for war.

The space shuttle is proving to be a safe and economical way to launch and service satellites, and today satellites provide many necessary services to mankind. For example, they make possible Mr. Armstrong's simultaneous transmissions to different parts of the world during the Feast of Tabernacles.

"The shuttle project is a good program overall," Mr. Nail explained. "It shows what men can do when they use their minds and work together." □

BY THE WAY...

By Dexter Faulkner

Heard Any Good Excuses Lately?

EXCUSES, EXCUSES. What's your favorite excuse?

- "I forgot."
- "I didn't have time."
- "I didn't understand what you meant."

Probably all of us, at one time or another, have heard — or have come up with — some pretty outlandish reasons for avoiding responsibility. And that's just what an excuse is — a flimsy reason for not doing something we should, or for doing something wrong.

Excuses come in handy in all kinds of situations — failing to take care of a household chore, forgetting something we promised to do for a friend, not turning in a school assignment, explaining how something got broken.

One of my staff members once had an elementary school teacher who had heard so many wild excuses from students not turning in their homework that he threatened to write a whole book of them:

"My hair hurt." "My little sister ate it." "I lost it." "My grandmother died." (This last one might have worked, but the student who used it had four grandmothers die over the course of the school term!)

Then there's the guy who turns down an opportunity to help someone and says, "I gave at the office."

Or the person who passes up a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity by saying, "Maybe next time."

Another of my staff members, who will remain unnamed, passed

up an invitation to lunch one day, saying she had to eat her liver (you figure that one out).

A lion in the street

The Bible records some humorous excuses that pointed up character flaws in the people who used them.

Proverbs 26:13-16 tells about a lazy man who refused to go to work because he claimed a lion was out in the street waiting to pounce on him! He stayed in bed so long he resembled a door turning on its hinges:

"The sluggard says, 'There is a lion in the road, a fierce lion roaming the streets!' As a door turns on its hinges, so a sluggard turns on his bed. The sluggard buries his hand in the dish; he is too lazy to bring it back to his mouth. The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who answer discreetly" (New International Version throughout).

While Moses was on Mt. Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments from God, his brother Aaron made a golden calf for the children of Israel to worship.

Notice Aaron's response when Moses confronted him about this sin:

"Do not be angry, my lord," Aaron answered. "You know how prone these people are to evil. They said to me, 'Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him.' So I told them, 'Whoever has any gold jewelry, take it off.' Then they gave me the gold, and I threw

it into the fire, and out came this calf!" " (Ex. 32:22-24).

The calf "just came out" by itself? Moses didn't buy that for a minute. Blaming others for our own faults is a common pitfall when things are going wrong.

"It's not my fault"

When God asked Adam why he had eaten the fruit God specifically commanded him not to eat, Adam replied, "The woman you put here with me — she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it" (Gen. 3:12). In other words, it was the woman's fault — according to Adam.

But what did the woman have to say? "The woman said, 'The serpent deceived me, and I ate.'" Oh, so it was the serpent's fault? And God made the serpent, so it was God's fault!

That was the position Adam and Eve took. We use a similar phrase today — have you ever seen somebody louse up a job or break something, only to say, "Look what *you* made me do!"? It's another excuse.

Christ told a parable about a man who had received one talent to work with, but failed to produce anything with it. When his lord asked him why, he had this lame reply:

"Master," he said, "I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground" (Matt. 25:24-25).

Ridiculous? Yes. But the result wasn't a bit funny — especially to the servant.

Let's remember to forget about making excuses — weak, unfounded reasons for our failures — and live up to our responsibilities. Rudyard Kipling wrote, "We have 40 million reasons for failure, but not a single excuse."

What's the funniest excuse you ever heard? Write and tell us about it. If we receive enough good responses, perhaps we can print them in a future issue of *Youth 81*. □

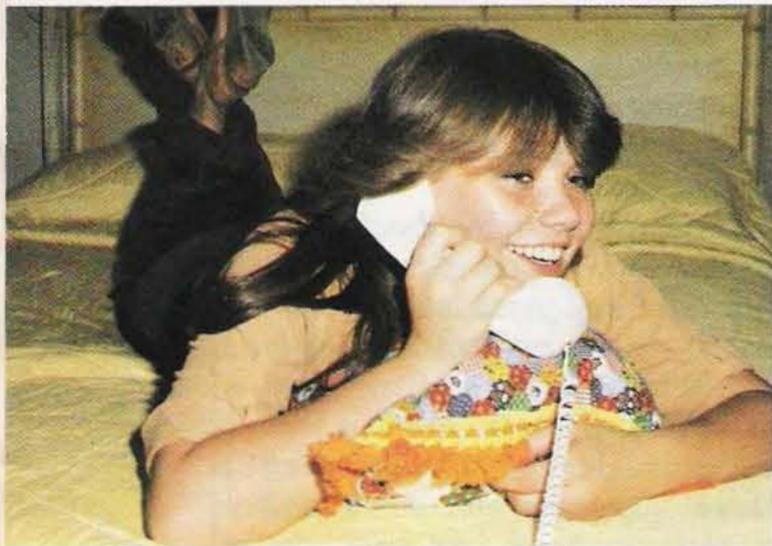
HELLO, WHO'S THERE?

By Arthur Suckling

I was sitting in my office working when the phone rang. I answered, "Hello." The voice on the other end said, "Who's that?"

Here he was calling me, but he asks who I am! I felt quite startled and replied, "Well, who's that?" The caller promptly hung up!

The telephone can be a very private, and sometimes annoying, thing. Just by dialing a number you can almost instantly be in someone's bedroom, bathroom or lounge. Some



people have phones all over the place!

The very sound of a phone ringing demands attention. Usually we answer it pretty quickly because we are anxious to know who is calling us. We put off eating, run from the shower all wet, do almost anything to answer this demanding, noisy, ringing sound that's designed to get our attention.

Photos by Nathan Faulkner

When we do pick up the receiver, sometimes the experience is not at all pleasant. But it's rather nice when the experience is pleasant and the conversation is courteous. Parents, for example, would probably get a good impression from a caller like this: "Hello," the caller says. "This is Bill Blogs calling. Is that you, Mr. Smith?"

"Yes, Bill. How are you?"

"Fine, thanks, Mr. Smith. I was wondering if Mary is there. I'd like to talk to her."

"Sure, Bill, just hold on a minute and I'll get her for you."

This conversation would be much better than an abrupt: "Is Mary there?"

To this the father could easily answer, "Why?"

"Well, I want to talk to her."

"Well, who are you so I can find out if she wants to talk to you?"

The point is that a little politeness goes a long way. It doesn't cost anything to say "please" and "thank you." A little time for exchanging pleasantries with the person whose home you are "invading" helps establish rapport and helps get you what you want.

Look at it this way. Take a few moments to be nice — you'll make a good impression on someone else and get what you want without any hassle.

How does your personality come across on the telephone? What others think about you can depend on how well you use courtesy in your

telephone conversations. Here are some points of courtesy to consider when making or answering a telephone call.

When calling:

- Don't call late at night or at any other time when you may disturb sleep, dinner or other important activities, except in an emergency. When calling long-distance, don't forget the time difference.

- Identify yourself — they'll want to know who you are and this will also alleviate any worries about crank or obscene callers.

- Project your voice, but don't yell into the phone. The phone will carry your voice without you having to raise it. Speak clearly and pleasantly.

- Don't tie up the telephone when others may need to use it.

When answering the telephone:

- Answer clearly and pleasantly. Don't make jokes when you answer — you never know who's on the other end of the line.

- Don't give out information until you know who is calling.

- Don't go looking for someone and forget the person on the other end of the line. Ask if you can take a message if the wait will be long.

- Take clear and complete messages.

What will you say the next time someone says "Hello" to you on the phone? □



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