



RELIGION

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK: PETER Chapter 3

WOMEN GROWING AND KNOWING GOD'S WORLD

by MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

All women are cordially invited to attend the 7th annual Adult and Young Women's Prayer Retreat, Beginning June 2, 1989 and continuing through June 4, 1989. Reservations are being requested. There will be 13 workshop classes! The deadline is May 28, 1989.

Why a retreat....? The women of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church are sponsoring its Annual Prayer Retreat along with the support from its sister churches, Morning Star and New Jerusalem. All women are invited to join them for an opportunity to fellowship with other Christian women to worship, praise and glorify God together..

To see souls won for Jesus Christ in the building of God's Kingdom. The retreat will provide hope for each woman experiencing fear, stress, hurt, loneliness, depression, family, marital, and financial problems. They will be believing in God to move them toward spiritual Unity as they seek to "Grow and Know God's Word."

The guest speaker will be Sis Annie Hubbard from Gurdon, Arkansas. She is a wife, mother, educator, Evangelist, and Spirit-filled woman of God. Sis Hubbard's teaching career began when her fourth child entered first grade. Five years later, she acknowledges that God is good to her. She loves Him deeply and does only her very best to please Him.

On Friday, June 2, everyone will meet at the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, located at 3725 North Gantenbein. Transportation will be provided for those who need it. The fee is \$36.00. The age limit is 16 and up.

For more information, please contact Ida Greenidge (503) 289-9468 or Pat Howard (503) 287-3978.

The place....Jennings Lodge Christian Conference Center, 18121 SE River Road, Milwaukie, Oregon 97222.

PRINCE HALL GRAND HIGH COURT CELEBRATES ITS NINETEENTH ANNIVERSARY

The Rebecca Court #4 Heroines of Jericho will celebrate its 19th Anniversary (70-1989) on Saturday, June 3, 1989 at 6:30 pm in the evening at the Ron's Century House located at 312 E. Evergreen Blvd., in Vancouver, Washington.

The program will honor Past Ancient Matron, Ida Jones. CONGRATULATIONS!! to Mrs. Jones for the work she has done and is still doing in and around the Portland community.

LET US LIFT UP OUR EYES TO HEAVEN

When we lift our eyes toward heaven and we keep them lifted there, When we kneel with humbled heart and turn our thoughts to prayer, Then we see that God, who loves us and keeps us in

in His care, Will touch our lives and give us precious peace beyond compare. -----by Doria Oliver

WE'VE STRUGGLED IN MANY STORMS

by Jeannie Reynolds & Mattie Ann Callier-Spears

Longtime Portland residents, Ancil and Beth Nance, returned to the lower auditorium of the Immanuel Temple Church on May 7, 1989 where they were surrounded by red peonies and white snowball pompoms gathered from the neighboring yards just as it was when they were united in Holy matrimony 50 years ago. There was a reception and program. Over 100 family and friends attended. Beth's brother, the Pastor John D. Kennington of Immanuel Temple, was the host. There were five speakers reminiscing from each decade of their marriage. Ancil's favorite song, "My God and I", was sung by Kenneth Post of Maranatha Church. Their daughter, Eunice Jeannie Nance Reynolds, rewrote the lyrics to "When You and I were Young, Maggie", and serenaded her parents. Singing with Jeannie were her three daughters--Ordella, Catherine, and Laura Reynolds.

Back in the 30's Elizabeth Kennington and Ancil Nance met when their families were attending the special revival meetings in downtown Portland that were held by the Salvation Army founder's colorful grandson, Rev. William Booth-Clibborn, who later pastored Immanuel Temple, formerly called Portland Rose Tabernacle.

Neither Ancil nor Beth wanted to fall in love with anyone because each felt God wanted them to carry the Gospel to China. One day when Ancil overheard Beth discussing her commitment, he exclaimed that he shared her calling.

Their relationship began to bloom. He would show up at every church or mission meeting where Beth was preaching with his big smile of approval and an even bigger Bible on his knee.

They regularly ministered in a little church together in Canaan, Oregon and they sang together in a cantata as members of the Western Baptist Seminary's choir. They occasionally shared their lunchtime between classes. This was a time when raisins were a big treat. Apples and hazelnuts were the regular fare from Ancil's folk's orchard, in Vancouver, Washington--because they had no money to go out to lunch.

Ancil recycled newspapers to earn enough money for gas to transport him to Beth's home on SE Woodward Street in Portland, Oregon, up the hill to the seminary and then back to his Washington home each day. Even until this very day, Ancil continues to recycle newspaper as well as metal.

Some members of the Kennington and Nance families were helping to build the Immanuel Temple Church building; but, before the roof was put on--Ancil and Beth were married in the basement.

Fifty years later, Ancil, 86, the oldest child in his family, was joined by his four brothers and two sisters to celebrate Ancil and Beth's Golden Wedding Anniversary. Beth's two brothers and one sister also came to share in the celebration. Beth's third brother teaches in Maryland and another sister lives in Hong Kong as a missionary/journalist. They were unable to attend.

The Nance's son, Ancil K., lives in Portland and is employed as a freelance photographer. He recently returned from two extraordinary photo assignments on whitewater rafting trips with expeditionist Ken Warren on the Yanbgtze River through China and on the Chenab River in India. He and his three children: Mary, Lisa and Amelia joined the anniversary celebration. Also, attending the festivities was the Nance's youngest child, Eunice "Jeannie" Reynolds, a homemaker (by choice), her husband Wayne and their three daughters.

TRIALS IN THE MISSIONARY FIELD
Beth and Ancil were only one of many couples sent out to foreign countries as missionaries by the Rev. William Booth-Clibborn. The war in China had people worried about the Nances' safety--to which Beth's mother gave a much-quoted response, "It is safer to be in the will of God than ANYWHERE else on earth!!"

Ancil's experience as a wise conservationist proved indispensable just around the corner. When, in 1941, the Japanese army took the Nances away to prison camp for three-and-a-half years. There...they suffered many hardships. Their camera and other freedoms were taken away, but they were allowed to hold Gospel meetings illustrating with inspired words that pictured God's redeeming love for mankind through Jesus' death suffering and resurrection. The prisoners who came to hear the Nances' messages learned about an even worse bondage than of a manmade army. Through the spoken word, the prisoners were offered freedom from the world's sin and suffering by accepting God's free, unadulterated love and grace through faith in God's Son Jesus Christ. No one knows the impact of those Stanley Internment Camp meetings--except God Almighty. But, nevertheless, it kept Ancil and Beth busy. Preparing messages, sign making and posting, and in-between it all--they were rocking babies. To soothe and pacify the babies, Ancil would strum his banjo and lull his children into a peaceful sleep. Sleep was hard work when there was not enough food to eat. In the cracks of the cement walk, Ancil planted some sweet potato seeds. He used every possible space he could find for gardening. He had to feed his family. Sacrificingly, he held back the last potato from the garden so that there would be seed the next season--if they should still be living in prison.

During this trying period, Beth gave birth to their third and fourth children.

(TO BE CONTINUED IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE)

Beth and Ancil Nance & Mrs. Ida Jones Hi There! Love Ya. May God bless your day. Mattie Ann

Jesus Loves You!

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