

# RELIGION

Scripture of the Week

Poverbs chapters 18, 19 & 20

## BOYZ TO MEN

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

On Saturday, the fifth day of September, 1992, Mr. Bill Council, Vice President of the Board of Directors with the Foster Parents Association of Oregon, spoke at the monthly Men's Breakfast, which is held every first Saturday of each month, at the Schuyler Street location of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church.

Mr. Council's mission was to encourage Black Christian men to play active roles and to become more responsible in the upbringing of all young Black children--especially the young Black male.

In so many cases, the father is in prison and the mother is on drugs or out prostituting to make ends meet.

Mr. Council shared success and horror stories involving proper placement and improper placement. One of

the stories involved an eleven year old Black male who had been placed in a home with White Foster Parents. Although these persons were willing and very eager to help, they were not qualified to meet the emotional and social needs of this child. The woman called a friend and asked what could she do to make this child feel good about himself. The response and the action was to take the child to Waves to get his hair processed.

The processed hair, the flashy clothes, the big wad of money and the "Cadillac" are all seen as negative influences to our young, eager, wanting so much to emulate--Black males.

Mr. Council was very adamant concerning the manner in which a young Black male, especially, should be nurtured and by whom. He admonished

that more Black men should take active roles in reaching out to the Black youth of today.

Mr Council used himself as an example. He and his wife, Catherine, have been foster parents for seven years.

"We have this big, old house with all these empty rooms", Council pondered, "...and there are children out there who are in need of a place to stay".

He and Mrs. Council have nurtured 12 to 13 Black Children. Until the twenty-eighth day of July, the Council family was increased by six boys--four of the boys are brothers from the same parents. The boys ages ranged from five to eleven years.

"I was happy we were able to keep them together. Separation is so often the problem when there are more than one or two children from the same family. This is usually the cause behind so many run-aways soon after placement."

One of the boys had had some real noticeable problems in academic achievement when he first came into the Council home; but, since Mr. & Mrs. Council's firm and loving tutelage, this child had honor roll recognition.

"It took a lot of work and a lot of love", says Mr. Council.

"We had the two oldest sons of the late Eldridge Broussard for one full year", Mr. Council shared. "I am not going to lie and say that it is going to be easy because it is not. Whenever you really want to accomplish something and do a good job, it will take a concerted and laborious effort on your part."

There are many Black male foster children who are just waiting for a good home with love and understanding. Mr. Council said that, "If I could only get them at an early age like three or four years old, they are young enough for me to be instrumental in turning them away from gang involvement. I have found that once the boys reach the age of ten and twelve; it is very hard to deter them. Their minds are already set; and -- they run frequently, unless you are able to generate and interesting and positive

activity that will hold them. Once they reach the age of 10 and 11, it becomes harder to place them."

One of Mr. Council's concerns is to develop a proposal that will unite a select group of Black men, in the age range of 50 and over, who will take a few days out of the month to spend some quality time with a young Black male who is confused and needs to be focused: take him on a trip or help him with his homework or go to his sporting event at school or be a consultant and more. This would make a big difference in the lives of so many young Black males. Then -- we can be proud to know that we, Black Christian Men, did make a positive difference. Then -- we can hold our heads up high and say, "Yes! Black Men are useful, productive resources."

"We can make a difference", Council charged!

Mr. Council found that the young male child responds very favorably to the grandfather image. This proposal will employ the services of men who are now retired and just taking-up space in local establishments or just sitting at home with nothing better to do. Each man possesses a wealth of knowledge which has been laying dormant since retirement.

"I'm here to tell you that there is much to be done.

Something has to happen before these young Black males reach the age of sixteen and it's too late."

Mr. Council said that these young men need a firm male figure in their lives. Someone who will love them and be concerned about them. This subject has been brought up many times in one-on-one interviews.

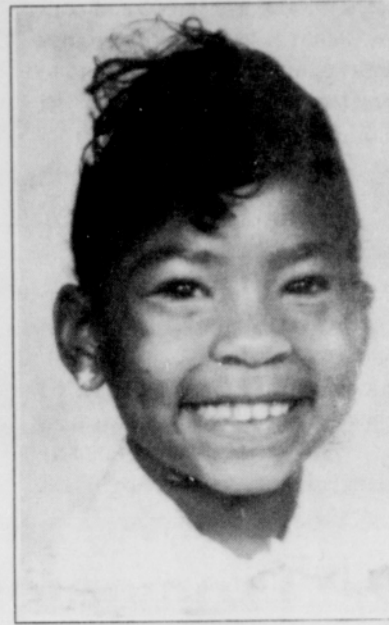
The Foster Parent Association of Oregon held a "GET Acquainted" Picnic at Wilshire Park on Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm.

All parents wanting to learn more about how they can become a foster parent should call 232-8383 and ask for Monique McKinley.

## In Remembrance



Joquita Collins



Jotisha Collins

The Washington, Collins, Huff and Kyles families mourn the loss of their loved ones.

Joquita Collins ten years of age and her sister

Jotisha Collins, nine years of age. The children

were fatally injured in an automobile accident

September 8, 1992 on their way to school.

Services will be held

Wednesday September the 16th

at Skyline Memorial Gardens 2:00 pm

## St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church

8101 N. Fiske Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97203

Church Phone: 289-0147

Study Phone: 289-1911

**Sunday Service**  
10:45  
**Sunday School**  
9:30  
**Bible Study**  
6:00  
**Evening Service**  
7:00 P.M.



Pastor, Rev. James C.E. Faulkner

**Theme: Whatever you're going to do for the Lord, do it now**

I Peter iv. 11

# There is... More To Life.

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST BILLY GRAHAM CRUSADE**  
Civic Stadium, Portland  
Sept. 23-27, 1992  
ALL SEATS ARE FREE

**SANDI PATTI**  
Performing Sun., Sept. 27, 3:30 PM

**DENIECE WILLIAMS**  
Performing Wed., Sept. 23, 7:30 PM

**MICHAEL CARD**  
Performing Sat., Sept. 26, 7:30 PM

**NEWSONG**  
Performing Thurs., Sept. 24, 7:30 PM

**JOHNNY CASH & JUNE CARTER**  
Performing Fri., Sept. 25, 7:30 PM

**BUCK WILLIAMS, TRAIL BLAZERS**  
Testimony Thurs., Sept. 24, 7:30 PM

**JULIE EMRY, CHANNEL 2 CO-ANCHOR**  
Testimony Wed., Sept. 23, 7:30 PM

**DAVE JOHNSON, BRONZE DECATHALON WINNER**  
Testimony Sat., Sept. 26, 7:30 PM

## God's Love Is Infinite

BY MATTIE ANN CALLIER-SPEARS

I shall love thee  
as my days are long  
I shall love thee  
through the words of a song

I shall love thee  
when all else fails  
But God shall love thee  
when evil assails

God's love buffets  
when the chips are down  
His love comforts  
in the midst of many frowns

When your friends and loved ones  
don't seem to care  
And the burdens you sustain  
are too much to bear

Then, when all hope  
seems to be g-o-n-e  
And you're left  
standing all alone...

With Tear-stained cheeks,  
blurred eyes grim  
Trying hard to focus  
but chances are slim

look up!  
Don't despair  
tho' it may seem odd  
Just ---  
Stretch out your hand  
and touch the loving face of God.

## Annual Fall Fashion Luncheon

The Episcopal Church Women of St. Philip the Deacon Parish Will Present Their Annual Fall Fashion Luncheon

The Episcopal Church Women of St. Philip the Deacon parish will present their annual Fall Fashion Luncheon at the Church, 120 NE Knott Street, on Saturday, September 26, from 12 till 3 pm.

Phone the church at, 281-5802.



## MT OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH

Has moved Sunday services to  
Stone Tower Church,  
N.E. Sandy Blvd. & 30th

Worship Services 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Church School 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.  
Bible Study, Wednesdays, 116 N.E. Schuyler  
10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Radio Ministry each Sunday, 8:00 a.m. on KBMS

A Teaching Church With A Reaching Ministry  
Dr. James E. Martin, Senior Pastor

Church Office 116 N.E. Schuyler St.  
(503) 284-1954

Jesus Loves You!

## Allen Temple CME Church

Psalm 34:3

4236 NE Eighth Avenue  
(corner of 8th & Skidmore)

Portland, Oregon 97211

(503) 287-0261

Phillip S. Nelson Pastor

## Mallory Avenue Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

God's Presence promises  
Power through Jesus Christ in  
Good Times and Bad Times  
Matthew 11:28

"Come to me all you who are  
weary and heavy laden and  
I will give you rest"

9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Morning Worship  
7:30pm Tuesday Bible  
Study and Prayer

Inter-racial Congregation

126 N.E. Alberta + Portland, OR 97211 + (503) 288-5173



Denise F. Bell, Pastor