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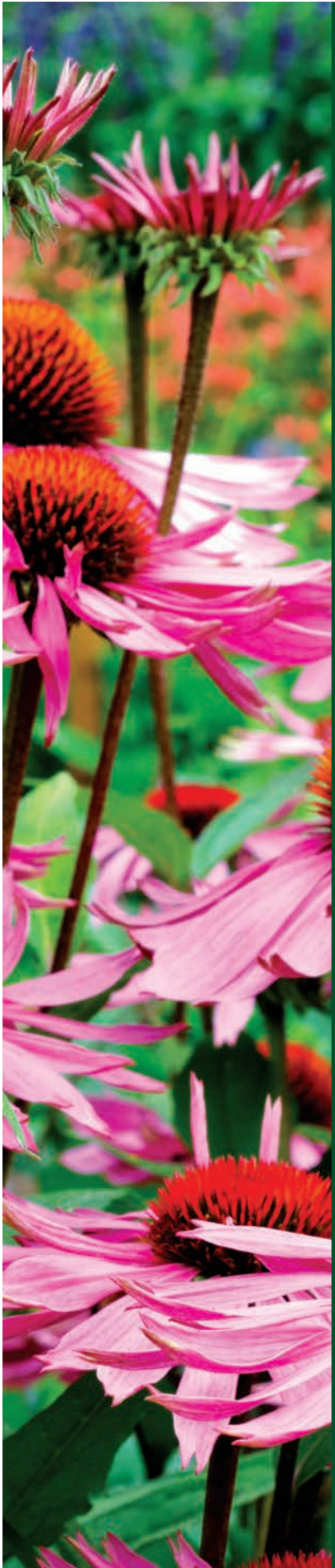
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contents

PathPointe Magazine

Volume 20, Issue 8

August, 2019

- Page 2 **Born To Create**
Dr. T. D. Worthington
- Page 6 **Radio Bits**
Your Christian Superstations!
- Page 8 **Stop The Crumbling**
Mrs. Sherry Worthington
- Page 11 **Is There Not A Cause?**
Dr. Glenn Mills
- Page 12 **And Finally...**
Back To School Memories...

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PathPointe Magazine

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The Scriptures instruct us to let our light shine. We are told to display the light that Christ gives us by our good works so that others may see it and thereby glorify our Father in heaven.

When you go to a show, why are there actors on the stage? Is it not because they all have a role to play? Some play a big role, some much smaller, but if they were not there for some purpose, they would not be on the stage in the first place. When you think about it, we are all actors on the stage of life. As, Christians, we are a theatre for the world. God placed us here for a purpose. We have a role to play. We are here to make a difference in the world we live in. The importance of a life lies in the impact it has on other lives. Hopefully, people can see your performance and determine you made a positive impact in the drama of life.

If I am going to make this positive impact, I must play the role God has assigned for me. I am not here to read your lines, but I am here to read my own lines as professionally and clearly as I can. To do this the Bible says that God has made me a partaker of the *divine nature*. Because I am saved, the Holy Spirit lives within me, I am born into God's family, and I have the nature of God, which is the only way I could do His work anyway. Of course God has many virtues, but I want to focus on just one. That is, that God is a Creator. He is the only Creator that can create something from nothing. When we say that we create something, we are only rearranging stuff that God has already created.

So, because God is a creator, and I have His nature, that means I am a creator also. No, I can't create any

more stars, but there are things I can create utilizing the raw materials God has placed at my disposal. In that sense, we are all born to be creators. It's in our very nature. Shouldn't we be about our Father's business? Shouldn't we be creators as well?

If you have kids, you know what I mean. Almost everything they do is in a sense creative. Don't you remember those magical times in your childhood when you could lose yourself in your imagination? You could become anything and anyone, and life was full of infinite possibilities and exciting potential. Logic didn't get in the way, blocking your sense of freedom and joy. And if life was miserable, you could escape from it all through the creative, imaginative world you made for yourself. Creating is natural for kids.

In my day, we took two pieces of wood and a rusty nail and made an airplane. Modern kids can take a box of Lego's and build all kinds of stuff. All kids are born creative. In fact, creation is in the very essence of all living things. How would the birds know how to create a nest or the spider weave a web if it wasn't inherent in their nature.

As adults, even when the wonder of childhood begins to wane, that creative nature is still within us. That is one of the reasons we all have hopes and dreams. The difference between us as adults and kids and animals is that kids and animals work more naturally on instinct. They don't have to sift through all of the self-doubt of their personal limitations. They just do what naturally enters their minds, and usually it makes them happy.

We, as adults, tend to get in our own way. And unfortunately when we stifle the creative instinct and feel unable or unworthy to pursue our hopes and dreams we are not creatively expressing our true selves. We don't feel inspired and simply go through the paces of our routine lives. We let our thinking get into a rut and allow our beliefs to become fixed and inflexible. If we're blessed, we'll find some kind of outlet through our work or hobbies that will let us flex our creative muscles. But for many of us, those muscles are allowed to become stiff and unused, which in turn leaves us feeling stale and quite possibly bored with our humdrum existence.

Almost every day we hear of new innovations in technology, in medicine, and in the arts which remind us that humans, all humans, are capable of remarkable creativity. Creativity is our vehicle of self-expression and is at the heart of what defines us as the human

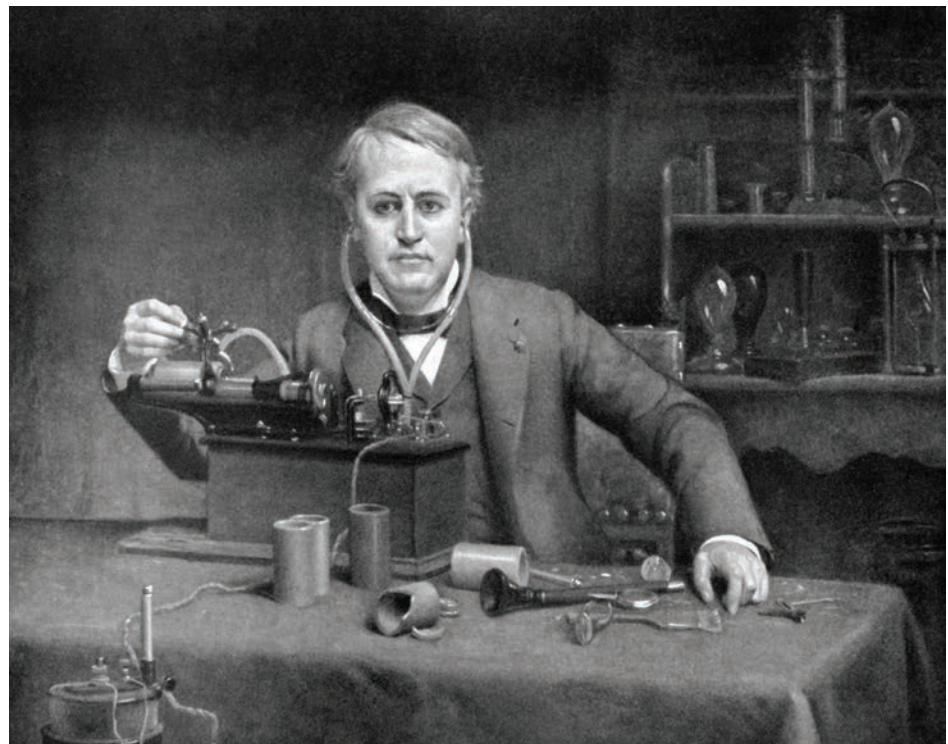
race. For almost all of history, the popular conception of creative people was that they were born that way, with unique gifts that pressed them to seek out and fulfil the great creations of their destiny. They were the Da Vinci's, the Edison's, the Einstein's, the writers, and the builders. They were the *"chosen"* ones who were bestowed with great creative power. Perhaps you don't feel you can create much of anything today. But, just think of what your imaginations led you to do with a tub of Play-Dough or Lego blocks. We each began life as a creative child, so at what point in our lives did creativity forsake us? As children we are all naturally creative, yet by the time we reach adulthood, our creativity has been educated and matured out of us.

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up." Pablo Picasso

We are all meant to shine as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us.

It's not just in some of us; it's in every one of us. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. It can be contagious. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others. Think about the people that have inspired you. We will never know the inspiration our actions will have on other people.

Creating is one of the things we were put on this earth to do. It is one of the ways people can behold our works and glorify our Father. It may be books for people to read, songs for people to sing, houses for people to live in, churches for people to attend, radio stations for people to listen to, colleges or schools for people to attend; we were all born with a creative gene, desiring to express itself. We just need to awaken our creative instinct. Creativity doesn't have to mean just writing, painting, or poetry, it can be whatever God calls you to do; whatever you are passionate about. It is about what brings you joy and the





productive endeavor that makes you lose track of time.

Whether you are creating new things, recreating old things, or improving and building upon the creations of others; know this, you were born to create. You have the choice to honor that spirit within by actively choosing to express your unique creative genius in your own inspired way, and in so doing, you may very well contribute to the well-being of every person on earth. My challenge is that each of us will have the courage to embrace our creative gifts and share them so others might be blessed and encouraged by your calling.

If Jesus tarries His coming, we will all die. The goal isn't to live in this flesh forever. The goal is to create something *while in this flesh* that will live forever.

“If you would not be forgotten as soon as you are dead, either write something worth reading or do something worth writing about.” Benjamin Franklin

Don't die with your music still inside you. Work your magic now, while you have time, work your magic into the world around you. Release your creative self. It's not about creating a once-and-for-all grand masterpiece; it's

about getting into a routine of creation. It's about igniting the spark and keeping it glowing. We were born to make manifest the creative glory of God that is within all of us. One of my greatest realizations was that my deepest fear was not that I was inadequate. My deepest fear was when I realized I was powerful beyond measure. It was my light, not my darkness, it was my power not my weakness, that most frightened me. I know this sounds prideful, but through Christ, ***“Who am I to be this powerful, this brilliant, and this talented?”*** Actually, who am I not to be? I am a child of God. I have the mind of Christ and the resources of Heaven at my disposal. That's the way you've got to think.

Spending your life playing small doesn't serve the world. Who does that feed, who does that educate, who does that serve? There's nothing to be gained by shrinking. We were born to create, to shine. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. As we let our own light shine, we subconsciously give other people permission to do the same.

When Jesus was preparing his disciples to proclaim his message of grace, He knew the fears that lurked in their minds and He tried to convince them of their worth in the eyes of God. They hear Him say over and over that they should not be afraid. Jesus comforts His small band of followers, assuring them that they are known by a Father who watches over them. He challenges them to reach the entire world with the Gospel message.

Apart from the obvious things that any Christian would do in seeking the will of God, I would offer you three additional suggestions:

First, put your life on a schedule. Amateurs create when they feel inspired. Professionals create on a schedule of self-imposed deadlines. No single act will uncover more creative genius than forcing yourself to create consistently.

Second, believe in the potential you have in Christ to do great and mighty things; to always believe, *“I've got what it takes to do this.”*

Third, watch or read accurate biographies of creative people. I've studied the lives of many great preachers. But, also I've read biographies of Henry Ford, S.S. Kresge, Jack Eckerd, Sam Walton, Jack Welch, Milton Hershey, Richard Warren Sears, J C Penney, and dozens of others. I like to read about creative people. You don't want to *look* like your heroes; you want to *see* like your heroes. I don't want to walk in their shoes. I want to see through their eyes. So why not decide today to try to awaken or reawaken your nature to create?

It's time to get started because most great accomplishments were made after someone worked at it for at least 10 years. Let's waste no more time. It's time to start that ministry, to utilize that gift, to undertake that endeavor. It's time to dust off your creative genius, stretch those wings, and access the joy that comes from remembering that with God anything is possible—if you are willing to let your light shine.



Dr. Worthington has been in the ministry over forty years and serves as President of Pathway Ministries.

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Radio**bits**

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Be Careful, Little Ears, What You Hear

Earphones and other music players have been the target of many complaints and lawsuits over the years. Often times they are used improperly at high volumes, and sometimes these listening devices designed to help us hear can actually cause a loss of hearing.

The world around us is no different. It is filled with loud noise. We hear noise on a daily basis that's designed to seduce, sell, frighten,

entertain, and deceive. Whether you're listening to a secular radio station, watching television, looking at social media, or even sitting in a restaurant close to others in conversation, the noise of the world abounds. It seems like no matter how hard we try, we just can't escape it.

Sometimes it seems the sound that matters most is lost in the abundance of noise. We read in **I Kings** about the "still small voice" of the Lord. When we are not actively paying attention, that voice is easily overshadowed by the clamor of the world.

At *GoMix Christian Radio*, our expertise is in sound, not noise. We recognize the difference between

the confusing and dangerous noise of the world and the sound of truth. When the volume is turned up to *GoMix Christian Radio*, we guarantee the sounds you hear will uplift and edify the body of Christ and bring Glory to our King. Our goal is to be a listening device that God can use to speak to the hearts and minds of all who tune-in.



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Check it Out.. GoMix GOLD & Serene!

Since 1998, **GoMix Christian Radio** has maintained a format of conservative Southern Gospel Music. In the process, we have become an innovative leader in promoting this form of Christian outreach. A key focus has always been the development and refinement of tools and resources to share the Gospel with a greater audience. With your faithful support, over the years **GoMix** has been able to expand our outreach by adding additional radio stations. We were also one of the first stations in our area to embrace the Internet as a vehicle to stream our signal around the world.

While there has been somewhat of a government freeze in placing new stations on the air, we have continued to look for new ways to reach a diverse audience with the message of hope. We feel that significant progress has been made in this goal by the addition of two new Internet music streams.

It is hard to imagine any industry not having made an effort to take advantage of the far-reaching capabilities of the Internet, and radio is no exception. Benefiting from the technical advances of audio streaming, virtually all major radio stations have crafted a presence on the World Wide Web. Recent studies in the US show a huge growth in online radio listeners. This growth is not just occurring in the home. Today,

more and more cars are connected to the Internet. By simply connecting a smartphone to a CarPlay or Android Auto compatible screen, listeners can tune in to **GoMix** anywhere an Internet signal is available. In the future, radio will be everywhere.

GoMix has a huge Southern Gospel music library, including hundreds of old, vinyl records. We felt this archive was being wasted; therefore we have placed a new internet stream in service. It is called "**GoMix GOLD.**" Selections from the 50's through the 90's are streamed 24 hours a day from a new dedicated server.

The next addition is an instrumental channel called "**Serene.**" The theme is "**Be Still and Know.**" At our sister ministry, **Pathway Christian Academy**, we play a soft selection of easy listening secular standards interspaced with Christian hymns. Over the years, many have inquired about obtaining a source for this music. Now, it is available as a soothing alternative to help you relax and reflect on the greatness of our God.

The easiest way to check out either of these new streams, as well as our original **GoMix** stream, is to look for the banner at the **GoMix** website: www.gomixradio.org



Stop The Crumbling

Mrs. Sherry Worthington

How did that dust get into my hair? It's all over my shoulders, too. Ah, I see. The ceiling needs some work. It seems like we just repainted it. Then I looked around and I noticed the walls are in bad shape, too. The paint is peeling. What is happening? All of a sudden, the walls started crumbling faster and faster. I couldn't clean it up fast enough. Wait! The floor is rotting out from under me. Oh my! This cannot be. Before long the very foundation will be falling apart.

I awoke from my dream in a state of confusion. I was relieved that our house was still standing firm. It needs work, but a little elbow grease and

some paint will do the trick. I began to ponder the thought of my house breaking down around me. It was not a pleasant thought.

There are so many things a house can symbolize. The first that comes to my mind is this body I live in. Well, it is hard to admit, but it is starting to crumble. When I was younger, I could get hurt and heal rather quickly. I could "take a lickin' and keep on tickin'." Now, if I twist my ankle, it takes a while to get better, and it is very easy to reinjure. I also get tired so much quicker than I used to. I could last for hours, but now I am ready to crash when I get home. I am

so thankful that I am still able to keep moving. I am in better shape than a lot of people my age. So this is definitely not a complaint. Someone once told me that every ten years you can tell a difference in your body and your stamina. *I am living proof.*

We can't forget that our minds also crumble. It is a puzzle. We think quicker and are much sharper when we are young, but we are so much wiser when we are older. As we get age, we learn what is important and what is not, for the most part anyway. Some people never learn, no matter how old they are. There seems to be a short window of opportunity when we

have the wisdom to match our health. However, when we get older, we are not able to remember things as well as we used to nor do we always make wise decisions. It is so sad. The saying that youth is wasted on the young is so true.

Another area that can be symbolized by a crumbling house is our homes. Unfortunately, we don't want to make the effort to keep it in good repair. What does it take to have a good home? The family unit has to be healthy. Husband-wife, mother-father, and parent-child relationships all make up a good home. If the husband and wife are constantly bickering with each other, there is no love or peace in the home. When the mother and father are too busy to have quality time with their children and are too lazy to discipline them correctly, the children do not feel loved. The atmosphere is one of chaos. The homes in America are crumbling before our very eyes.

Our nation appears to be crumbling. I was talking with my parents the other day, and we wondered how America could have gotten in such bad shape. There are so many reasons America has gone downhill that it would be hard to name them all. Each individual Christian has not taken a stand. We have not said "No" to abortion. We have not made our voices known in the elections. Christians should never vote for anyone who is in favor of abortion. There are so many other areas we have not fought to keep sacred. We allowed the liberal agenda to take root in our country. America is crumbling as our freedoms erode.

What else? Many of our churches are not preaching the Gospel of Christ. They are closing their doors. Some have become social clubs with

entertainment as the main focal point. It seems we are afraid to call sin "sin" and fight for what is right. We have forgotten how to witness and lead others to Christ. America needs churches who will get back to the basics. It is sad to see a church with the doors barred up, but it is even sadder when the pulpit is compromised. The churches are falling apart.

There are so many areas that a crumbling house can symbolize, but our children are the saddest to me. I believe if we stop the corrosion of our children, we will stop the destruction of so many other areas. I have been teaching for many years. I have observed children in church, in the neighborhood, and in the mall. I have observed the music they listen to and the TV shows they watch. I have observed their work ethic and

their attitudes. There are exceptions of course, but children have been thrown by the wayside. We treat them like our toys. We are excited to play with them, but we put them aside when we start to tire of them.

Vladimir Lenin had a couple of quotes about children. He said, "*Give me just one generation of youth, and I'll transform the whole world*" and "*Give me four years to teach the children and the seed I have sown will never be uprooted.*" Isn't this true! Wasn't this the purpose of Hitler's youth? "The Hitler Youth was an organization, formed in 1922 by the Nazi Party, whose main purpose was to train and educate boys and girls, from ages 10 to 18, to become loyal followers of the Nazi Party as well as future members of the German military. The Youth





accomplished this mainly by means of *indoctrinating nationalism, pride, and devotion to the Nazi Party, Germany, and Adolf Hitler, into Germany's Aryan youth.*"

Our children are accepting the values they are being taught by our public schools, the Internet, television, and music. Unfortunately, parents do not know what their children are being taught and what they are listening to off of the Internet. Social media is rampant. There are so many apps that they cannot keep up with them all. I challenge each parent to look at what your child is being taught. Read his textbooks or check out the iPad or laptop he is using. Protect your children.

A good place to start would be to take your children out of the public school

and enroll them in a Christian school or start a homeschool where they can be taught your values. There are a lot of teachers that serve in the public schools that love the children and are there because they are trying to make a difference. Unfortunately, there are many that are teaching the government agenda. I believe our government does not want us to be able to think for ourselves so they are starting with our children. Sadly, I see the results all around me of children who have been indoctrinated by our liberal system.

Doesn't the Scripture teach the same thing? *Proverbs 22:6 states, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."* We need to wake up and train our children in God's ways. It is our responsibility. Parents, be diligent.

Our adversary, the devil, is seeking to devour our children (*1 Peter 5:8*). The world wants your children. Don't let it have them. Keep them from crumbling and just maybe, with the Lord's help, our children can make a difference. They can slow down the decay, but only if we save them from the forces of evil.

Let's slow down the crumbling around us. When the Lord comes back, He will stop the crumbling once and for all.



Mrs. Worthington has five children and eleven grandchildren. She serves as Principal of Pathway Christian Academy in Goldsboro.



“Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.”

Matthew 25:34-36

When it comes to serving with Jesus, is there not a cause? When we set our hearts to love God, we soon find ourselves loving what He loves. He loves people!

What makes us think that God is compassionate toward people and would not for us to be the same? Jesus was all about helping people, loving people, and caring for people. Everywhere Jesus went He was doing something to help or guide someone.

This world is still full of hurting people who need to see and feel the love of God. We are the Body of Christ, which means we should in some way be meeting the needs of the people God puts in our paths. We are not all called to do the same things, but we are all called to do something. God has different ministries available for different people.

There are many different ways we can help minister to others. Some are moved to help those with addictions.

Some are moved to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. Some are moved to visit the sick, elderly, shut-ins, and imprisoned. Some are moved to travel to other parts of the world as missionaries. Others counsel those with special needs. Some are able to use their gifts and talents to meet the needs of others.

The list is almost endless of things people can do to help others in their community or around the world. There is not just one cause to help, but a multitudes of causes!

Many would be quick to say, “But I give money to the church which helps the poor.”

Money, my friends, is not a substitute for getting involved in the lives of others in need. NEVER! If you are not currently involved with a cause for Christ, pray and ask God who might need the help that only God can give through you. The statement, “it is better to give than to receive,” is more than true, it is a reality. When we make time for the needs of others, our lives will be a lot more fulfilling.



Dr. Glenn Mills is a full-time Evangelist with the Open Arms Evangelistic Ministry. He can be heard each weekday morning on GoMix Christian Radio.

And Finally...



Back To School Memories...

I remember always being excited about the start of a new school year. I always got new supplies, new clothes, and new teachers. I loved getting to see most of my friends in one place every day again, talking about how our summers were and what we looked forward to. I was also very struck by how quickly time passed, where every new school year seemed to arrive faster and faster. Even for my kids now, that part actually hasn't changed. Is it really "back to school" time again already?

E. E.

I absolutely loved going back to school and couldn't wait to get started! I was obsessed with keeping each class color coordinated by folder, notebook, and highlighter. My favorite back to school item was definitely pens! I hold any writing utensil in a slightly strange position, so it was really important for me to pick out pens that I would be comfortable with when taking a lot of notes.

M. T.

My favorite part of going back to school was the shopping! I remember my sisters and I trying on a bunch of different clothes and fighting over who gets what. My favorite new item was always shoes. Whether it was the coolest new sneakers or something pretty, I always got really excited about new shoes. I guess in a way, I still do!

A. E.

I started school in a very small town in Idaho. The classes from first grade through senior high were

all in one building. My first-grade class was in a small room where both first and second grades were held. We sat on benches that seated two students, so we shared a desk that had a shelf under the table for our pencils and paper. Books were handed out each day and collected at the end of class. Two students per book! We had only one teacher and she taught both grades. We first graders read whenever the teacher was working with the second graders. All this sharing wasn't too bad if another boy was assigned to sit with you, but having to share your desk with a girl wasn't any fun at all! That is just the way a guy felt when he was only six years old.

R. G.

"World Missions"

We'd like your help for an upcoming edition of "And Finally..."

If you have been on a mission trip to another state or country, write to us and tell us about your adventure!

The deadline for submission is August 30, 2019.

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